The Literary Digest

A WEEKLY COMPENDIUM OF THE CONTEMPORANEOUS THOUGHT OF THE WORLD

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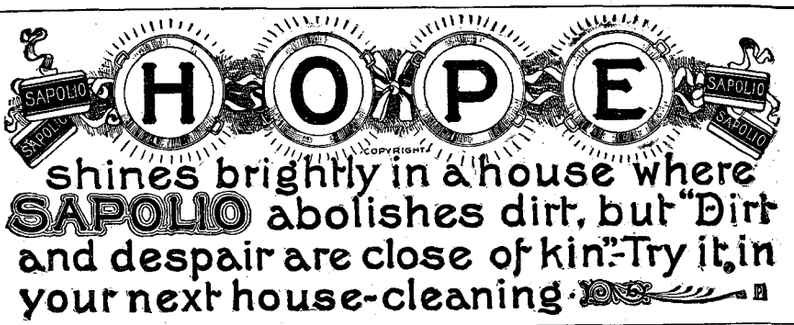

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(*To be continued.*)

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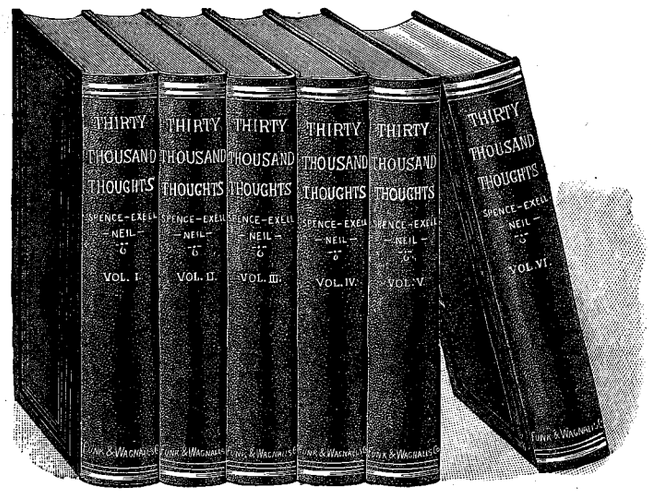

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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S USE OF THE PARDONING POWER.

CONSIDERABLE criticism of President McKinley's use of the pardoning power has arisen on account of the large number of financial offenders whose punishment has been curtailed by him. Nor is the criticism confined to the "free-silver" press. The number of these pardons, and their significance, both political and ethical, appear in the following representative quotations:

"Is Bank-Wrecking Crime?"—"The peculiar sympathy exhibited by President McKinley for bank-wreckers sentenced to terms of imprisonment for violations of the United States laws is giving rise to a great deal of adverse comment among bankers and others who believe that integrity is protected and promoted by making crime as odious as possible. During the past few months *The Financier* has called attention several times to the remarkable frequency with which pardons are being granted to men whose offenses against the banking laws were notoriously flagrant. Another instance of misdirected clemency occurred a few days since when the ex-cashier of a St. Louis bank, sentenced to five years' imprisonment for embezzlement, was pardoned, altho there was nothing to show that sentence had been wrongfully passed upon him. The record of pardons granted by President McKinley to bank embezzlers, and others of that ilk during the year 1897 is as follows:

Harry L. Martin, convicted February 10, 1896, embezzlement; sentence, five years; pardoned April 2.
Alonzo B. Cranford, convicted of violation United States banking laws in Missouri; sentenced October 8, 1894, five years; pardoned May 8.
Henry H. Kennedy, convicted in Pennsylvania of violating National banking laws; sentenced September 16, 1891, ten years; pardoned May 21.
John M. Wall, convicted in Ohio for violating the United States banking laws; sentenced April 27, 1897, to five years; pardoned October 9.
Frederick E. Edgar, convicted in New York May 9, 1894, of violating national banking laws; sentenced five years; pardoned June 1.
Charles R. Fleischman, convicted in Illinois of violating banking laws; sentenced December 8, 1896, five years; pardoned June 28.
Frederick L. Kent, convicted in Missouri of embezzlement; sentenced September 7, 1893, ten years; pardoned July 7.
Edward R. Carter, convicted in New York of violating national banking laws; sentenced January 9, 1895, six years and six months; pardoned July 9.
Francis A. Coffin, convicted in Indiana of violating United States banking laws; sentenced October 26, 1895, eight years; pardoned September 9.
Lewis Redwine, convicted in Georgia of violating United States banking laws; sentenced January 12, 1894, six years; pardoned October 26.
Stephen M. Folsom, convicted in New Mexico, April 17, 1894, of falsifying books National bank; sentenced five years; pardoned November 16.
Frederick W. Griffin, convicted in Illinois of embezzling national bank funds; sentenced May 24, 1895, five years; pardoned November 22.
Wm. E. Burr, Jr., Missouri, sentenced January 27, 1896, to five years imprisonment for embezzlement, pardoned December 23, 1897.

"It appears from the above that the convicted persons served on an average less than one fourth their terms, and several were in prison for a few months only. Now, there are but two conclusions to be drawn from the President's action in these cases. One is that the evidence did not warrant conviction, and the other is that the laws relating to the punishment of bank criminals are too stringent. It is charitable to assume that the Executive was influenced by the latter consideration. To impugn the convicting magistrates on the score of partiality or wrong construction of law would be, manifestly, both improper and absurd. The President, of course, having full power to pardon, can set aside the verdicts, but it is a questionable policy that dictates leniency in offenses as grave as the ones cited. If bank-wrecking, or embezzlement of funds, is a crime, it deserves punishment just as much as petty larceny, or other criminal breaches; but if it is not so considered, the sooner the laws are amended to cover the new interpretation, the better it will be for innocent stockholders and depositors whose money is stolen. Forearmed with the knowledge that dishonesty need not apprehend quick and certain punishment, they could at least take strict measures of prevention. That is more than they have been moved to do up to the present time.

"It is time, however, that some protest was made against these wholesale pardons, unless the fact can be clearly established that the convictions were improper. And the attempt to defend clemency on that score will utterly fail."—*The Financier, New York.*

The Weakest Spot in Presidential the Armor.—"This is rather a surprising list, and it is difficult to understand why this class of offenders should appeal so strongly to the President. The banker is removed from the temptations to which distress and penury subject other classes. He has, in almost all cases, an environment especially designed to keep him from going astray. And, moreover, he almost invariably has the advantage of the best legal talent and the highest social influence to keep him out of the penitentiary or to secure the lightest possible sentence if there is no loophole of escape. There is, too, the strongest reason to be found in considerations of public safety against too great leniency in the treatment of criminals of this class. They are entrusted with the savings of so many, their looseness of conduct inflicts such widespread sufferings and imparts such lasting demoralization to the business of a community, that the nation can ill afford to treat them with undue clemency. Why, then, should the President make such a conspicuous record in freeing this class of law-breakers from the penalties of the law? We have seen no explanation; but we surmise that his course is an indication of the weakest spot in the President's armor—an insufficient amount of resisting power. That was Garfield's weakness, and, unless we are mistaken, will prove to be President McKinley's."—*The Voice (Proh.), New York.*

Unjustifiable Attitude.—"It seems as if President McKinley had a special fondness for pardoning bank-wreckers and embezzlers, the very class of all others that ought to be the last to receive clemency. Their crimes are especially disturbing to society, and especially blameworthy in that they constitute violations of sacred trusts. Of course criminals of high standing, like those holding positions of responsibility in great banking institutions, can bring to bear in their behalf more pressure, political and

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otherwise, than ordinary offenders. In the face of the long pardon list and the facts as reported in some cases, one can not forbear thinking that influence is the chief factor in securing clemency.

"In the interest of depositors and shareholders alike subverters of trust funds should not be allowed to go unpunished when convicted of crime. How can a President elected on the issue of sound currency and sound banking justify this attitude of leniency toward dishonest bankers?"—*The Record (Ind.), Chicago.*

Righteous Indignation.—"No President for many years, if indeed any in the list, has incurred so much just criticism for undeserved clemency to men who have been guilty of breaches of trust as has been visited upon Mr. McKinley for his many pardons of embezzlers and bank-wreckers. The announcement made on the eve of Christmas that, after already releasing twelve criminals of this class, he had that day pardoned eight more of the same stripe, made a most painful impression upon the public mind. We are glad to observe that the religious press is taking up this matter. The Boston *Congregationalist* recently blamed the President for his abuse of the pardoning power. The Vermont *Chronicle* attempted to defend the Executive by advancing the absurd plea that 'there is no class of law-breakers who deserve more sympathy than those who have been betrayed into wrong under the intense pressure of commercial excitement.' *The Congregationalist* quotes this extraordinary claim of *The Chronicle's*, and says with righteous indignation:

"'Has it no sympathy for those whose savings are stolen, whose property is pilfered? We persist in expressing our amazement at the record which the President has made during the nine months that he has been in office, and we agree with other journals of the country in demanding that a halt be declared.'"—*The Evening Post (Ind.), New York.*

McKinley Compared to Cleveland.—How little basis there is for this criticism is shown by the Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Record*, an independent newspaper. In a published letter he gives a compilation of the pardons granted by President McKinley and compares it with the pardon record of President Cleveland. President McKinley has been in office almost exactly ten months. In that time he has granted ninety-seven pardons, eleven of which were to counterfeiters, twenty-two to violators of the postal laws, fourteen to violators of national banking laws, and eight to violators of the revenue laws. During the last ten months of his term President Cleveland granted two hundred and twenty pardons, or more than twice as many as President McKinley, twenty-one of which were to counterfeiters, twenty-five to violators of postal laws, nineteen to violators of banking laws, and nineteen to violators of revenue laws.

"Another comparison which gives the number of pardons granted to embezzlers and violators of the national banking act during the last three fiscal years, and during the ten months of 1897 in which Mr. McKinley was President, brings out his conduct in this matter in a still more favorable light. It is contained in the following table:

Years.	*Total Pardons.*	*Embezzlements, etc.*
1895	149	22
1896	159	21
1897	224	32
Ten months 1897	97	14

"It will thus be seen that President McKinley has been far less lenient to men convicted of crime than his predecessor, and instead of being criticized 'justly' for undeserved clemency he deserves credit for his moderation. But it is not alone for the small number of men he has pardoned that the President merits praise. He deserves commendation for the manner in which he has discharged this delicate duty. The Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Record* claims that President McKinley has never granted a pardon if it was objected to by the district attorney who tried the case and the judge who passed sentence, to whom the petition for clemency is referred. It is Mr. McKinley's habit also to go over all pardon cases with his Attorney-General, while it was Mr. Cleveland's custom to examine such applications and take action without the advice of the law member of his Cabinet."—*The Press (Rep.), Philadelphia.*

ANY appreciable reforms in the pension system, however, would add about two thirds of the Congressmen to the great army of the unemployed.—*The Tribune, Detroit.*

REPORT OF THE INDIANAPOLIS MONETARY COMMISSION.

THE committee selected by order of the executive committee of the Indianapolis convention of business men which met a year ago, has made public its plan for currency reform. The plan has been already embodied in a bill introduced in the House of Representatives, altho another meeting of the Indianapolis organization has been called for January 25 to pass upon it. The Indianapolis convention was made up of representatives from many city boards of trade and commerce, delegates being present from twenty-six out of forty-five States. The executive committee of fifteen, of which H. H. Hanna, of Indianapolis, is chairman, was authorized to carry on the work of the convention, and the chairman announced a commission of eleven members after it was seen that President McKinley did not intend to appoint a special currency commission. This commission, which has just made public its report, consists of ex-Senator George F. Edmunds, of Vermont, chairman; Charles S. Fairchild, New York; Stuyvesant Fish, New York; C. Stuart Patterson, Pennsylvania; T. G. Bush, Louisiana; J. W. Fries, North Carolina; W. B. Dean, Minnesota; George E. Leighton, Missouri; Robert S. Taylor, Indiana; Prof. J. Lawrence Laughlin, Illinois, and L. A. Garnett, San Francisco. By resolution of the Indianapolis convention, the objects to be secured by the plan to be formulated by the commission were a monetary system based on the maintenance of the present gold standard; the ultimate retirement of all classes of United States notes, together with the separation of the revenue and note-issue departments of the Treasury; and the extension of banking facilities to provide a safe and elastic circulation. The report of the commission recommends an explicit definition of the gold standard and a pledge that it shall be maintained; a requirement that all obligations, when not otherwise stipulated in the contract, shall be payable in conformity with that standard; the creation of a separate division of issue and redemption; outstanding note-issues of the Government to be gradually retired and their place taken by issues of bank-notes, altho it is suggested that silver certificates be not now disturbed and that no bank-notes of a denomination less than $10 be issued. Mr. Garnett and Professor Laughlin dissent from the report only on different features of the provisions relating to currency issues under the proposed plan.

Besides giving space to abstracts of the report, the "sound-money" press speak of it favorably, tho in some cases the praise is restricted to the effect the bill will have as part of a continued campaign of education.

Much of the discussion in journals of all kinds turns upon the probability of securing legislation to obtain the ends proposed by the commission. This plan has to take its chances along with others in the House of Representatives and the Senate; in this connection it is urged that the action of the reconvened convention at Indianapolis be made so representative and unanimous that members of Congress shall be impressed with the force of sentiment prevailing among the business interests of the country.

The Most Radical Plan Offered.—"The proposed scheme of monetary reconstruction is the most radical yet suggested. It provides for the extinguishment of the United States and treasury notes within ten years, through the issue of three-per-cent. gold bonds and the application of any surplus revenues available. It provides further for the gradual sale for gold of silver bullion held by the Treasury against the treasury notes of 1890, and for the redemption of silver dollars in gold as presented. It finally sweeps away the bond basis for bank circulation and permits the banks to issue notes to the amount of their paid-up and unimpaired capital, such notes to be a prior lien upon all bank assets. Five per cent. of this circulation is to be held in the Treasury in gold as a guaranty fund. Bank-notes issued within 60 per cent. of the bank capital will be free of tax; issued above 60 per cent. and below 80 per cent., the tax on the excess will be 2 per cent.,

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and on the excess above 80 per cent. the tax will be 6 per cent. State banks will be admitted to the scheme presumably by merely submitting to government examination and the other conditions.

"This is the plan in brief. It differs materially from the Gage plan, which continues the bond basis of bank circulation to a large degree, and which takes up some portion of the United States and Treasury notes on an issue of gold bonds, but does not provide for the cancelation of the notes. It is preferable to the Gage plan in respect to the abolition of the bond basis of bank circulation, but as a whole the scheme is more far-reaching probably than Congress is prepared to entertain. Expediency has not been consulted in its preparation, as Mr. Gage felt bound to consult it in preparing a practicable measure of reform. Therein lies the great difference. Both plans have the same end in view, but one recognizes the political difficulties in the way while the other pays no attention to them."—*The Republican (Ind.), Springfield.*

Keynote of the Report.—"The keynote of the report is the clear and even solemn recognition of the fact that the great trouble under which we are laboring is uncertainty as to the monetary standard of the nation. In the whole of what relates to the Government's dealings with the currency, this is the predominant thought. 'The most serious evil affecting our present monetary system,' says the commission in an early portion of the report, 'is the threatened degradation of the standard.' Far from saying, as did President McKinley in his message, that there is no doubt now that our currency is all as good as gold—crying peace, peace, when there is no peace—the thing insisted on throughout is that the maintenance of the gold standard is uncertain, and that this uncertainty is disastrous. One of the strongest statements on this head is contained in this passage:

"'The uncertainty of this situation is increased by the fact that the issue of bonds rests with the executive department, and whether it will be resorted to or not will depend upon the personal views and discretion of the officials at the head of the department. More serious still is the fact that it is in the power of the executive department, as the law now stands, to decide absolutely whether the government notes shall be paid in gold or in silver. An end ought to be put to this anomalous and hazardous situation by making specific and adequate provision for the payment of the demand obligations, and directing in the law that such payment shall be in gold at the demand of the holder.'

"This is the very antipodes of that way of talking about the subject which tries to veil the real evil under misleading talk about the mere expense of redemption. And if action is ever to be taken, it must be based upon a recognition of the vital necessity for a remedy. The nation can no more be brought around to a great measure of currency reform by representations as to the mere trouble and expense of the present system, than a patient can be got to submit to a heroic surgical operation on the plea that he will feel just a trifle better after it is over. We need currency reform because the country is in vital danger under the present system; and we shall never get it until that fact is made central in the discussion."—*The News (Ind.), Baltimore.*

Plan of Greenback Retirement.—"No new bond issue is recommended, and in this respect there is an important difference between methods suggested before and the commission's scheme.

"To the 'greenbacks' proper the commission adds the sum of $109,313,280, representing the treasury notes issued under the law of 1890. The note obligations payable in gold on demand under the parity requirement are thus reckoned at the sum of the greenback and coin notes, $455,994,296. What are the measures recommended in relation to these obligations, with a view to their withdrawal and cancelation? They are four in number.

"1. The creation of a separate issue and redemption division in the Treasury, and the transfer to it of the gold reserve and other resources, the notes to be redeemed in gold on demand.

"2. The reserve to be maintained from revenue when adequate, and by sale of bonds when strictly necessary, the proceeds of bond issues to be used for no other purpose.

"3. Notes once redeemed to be canceled up to the amount of $50,000,000, and the cancelation to continue thereafter for five years, but not in excess of the increase of bank paper. After five years the notes paid in gold to be retired at a rate not exceeding 20 per cent. per annum of the amount then outstanding; but at the end of ten years the legal-tender quality of outstanding notes is to cease.

"4. No note once redeemed to be reissued otherwise than in exchange for gold, except that in case of excessive accumulation of redeemed but uncanceled notes bonds may be purchased with them by the Treasury.

"The last measure is, and with perfect justice it seems to many, criticized by Professor Laughlin as inconsistent with the spirit and principle of the plan in its entirety. He says that the increase of circulation should not be left to the decision of officials; that they would be exposed to great political pressure and urged to reissure the notes regardless of business conditions; and that government notes should not be reissued when bank issues can be easily and safely provided to meet emergencies.

"Be this as it may, the course favored is certainly not a radical one. Contraction is guarded against by the provisions for an increase in bank circulation, and the sentimental friends of the greenback have a long period in which to reconcile themselves to the change. The objectors against new bond issues have no grievance against the commission's plan, and the only argument left is that based on a frank preference for government paper issues; a preference not shared by many, since it means greenbackism in the original sense—irredeemable notes."—*The Evening Post (Ind.), Chicago.*

To Increase Bank-Note Circulation.—"The changes in the national bank law are designed to increase the bank-note circulation, and to make it more sensitive to business conditions. Banks are to be allowed to issue notes up to the full amount of their paid-up capital. Up to 25 per cent. of the capital stock the notes issues must not exceed the value of the United States bonds required to be deposited with the Treasury, tho after five years the amount of these bonds shall be reduced each year by one fifth, the purpose being to base circulation on assets. From the very beginning, however, banks are to be allowed to issue 75 per cent. of their notes without a deposit of bonds. The present tax on circulation is done away with, and in lieu thereof there is a tax of 2 per cent. a year on the notes outstanding in excess of 60 per cent. and not in excess of 80 per cent. of the bank's capital, and one of 6 per cent. on the notes in excess of 80 per cent. of the capital. The notes up to 60 per cent. of the capital are untaxed. The result of this plan would be expected to be that banks ordinarily would not issue circulating notes in excess of 80 per cent. of their capital, as they would seldom find it profitable to issue notes on which they were taxed 6 per cent. They would only issue notes in excess of 80 per cent. of their capital in periods of great financial stress, as in 1893, when clearing-house certificates were issued. Indeed, the 2-per-cent. tax would often be sufficient to prevent an issue of notes above 60 per cent. Thus the bank currency would expand automatically to meet the demands of the business world.

"A guaranty fund is provided of 5 per cent. on all the notes issued, and all the banks are made responsible for the notes of each bank. This is in addition to the present redemption fund. The tax on circulation, too, is to be held in gold coin, and shall be supplementary to the guaranty fund. The notes are made a first lien on all the assets of the banks, and the stockholders are made liable for their redemption up to the full value of their stock. Provision is made for the organization of banks with a capital of $25,000 in places of 4,000 population or less, and also for the establishment of branch banks. Tho it is proposed to establish the gold standard, it is nowhere provided in express terms that national banks shall be required to redeem their notes in gold. This, it seems to us, is too important a matter to be let to mere inference. The redemption fund, the guaranty fund, and the tax on circulation must be held in the Treasury in gold coin, but the bank reserves may be held in 'lawful money,' one fourth of which must be 'coin.' There ought to be no doubt on this point."—*The News (Ind.), Indianapolis.*

The Indianapolis Currency Scheme.—"After three months of deliberation, the monetary commission appointed under the resolutions adopted by the Indianapolis convention of January 15, 1897, has made, in a pamphlet of forty-two octavo pages, a preliminary report of a scheme for the reformation of the currency. It presents a mass of arguments and of suggestions the substantial points of which are these:

"The standard of monetary values should be gold and gold only.

"The government notes now used as currency should be retired gradually, but as soon as possible.

"The banks should be allowed to issue notes to serve as cur-

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rency, up to the limit of their paid-up and unimpaired capitals, exclusive of so much thereof as is invested in real estate. . . . . .

"The first principle has the cordial support of *The Sun*, but to the other two it is inflexibly opposed. Meanwhile, we can only express our regret that a commission composed of so respectable citizens should have repeated the stale and often refuted assertions that the debt incurred by the Cleveland Administration was 'incurred chiefly if not wholly in consequence of the existence of the government notes,' and that the redeemed notes *must* be paid out again and again under any conditions of the national revenue. Assertions so groundless as these suggest a consciousness of a lack of sound arguments, and weaken the cause they are used to support."—*The Sun* (*Rep.*), *New York*.

Government in Banking Business More than Ever.—"The commission would create a department of issue and redemption in the Treasury Department, and the Secretary would have extraordinary powers under the proposed plan. This department would have charge of all government coin and bullion and a complete control over the government reserve. The Secretary of the Treasury would have authority to issue and sell 3-per-cent gold bonds running twenty years, redeemable in gold at the option of the Government after one year, and he could sell them at 95 per cent. of their face value. He might issue certificates of indebtedness in denominations of $50 or multiples thereof, payable to the bearer in from one to five years and drawing interest at 3 per cent., such certificates being subject to the exemptions provided in the refunding act of 1870.

"A novel feature is that which would make the national Treasury a general savings-bank. Whenever money is to be borrowed on the credit of the United States the Secretary of the Treasury might receive deposits of not less than $50, record the depositor's name in the books, but issue no bond or certificate. On such deposits the plan provides that the depositor shall draw interest in gold coin at the rate of 3 per cent., and the principal is to be paid through money-order post-offices at the termination of the period of the loan. To preserve the integrity of the silver coinage already in circulation the Treasurer would be authorized to pay out on demand gold coin for gold certificates, silver dollars for silver certificates, silver dollars in exchange for gold coin or gold coin in exchange for silver dollars. This measure is designed to hold the silver dollar above prejudice, but so far as appears there is nothing to prevent a syndicate of financiers from taking a carload of silver dollars to the United States Treasury or to any of the sub-treasuries and demanding gold coin in exchange. In time of peace and prosperity there would be little danger of such a raid, but business depression or a menace of war would apparently precipitate the speculators upon the gold reserve and the Treasurer would have no authority to prevent them from withdrawing the gold. . . . . .

"Such is the sublimated opinion of the uncompromising element in the gold party. It dishonors the silver dollar and then inconsistently puts it on the same plane with gold. It gives the Secretary of the Treasury absolute control over the finances of the country. It bestows upon him some of the functions of Congress and it plunges the Government into the banking business more than ever."—*The Tribune* (*Sil. Rep.*), *Detroit*.

State Bank Issues and Safety-Fund Plan.—"The main thing contended for by the Atlanta convention [of bankers last month] was the right of state banks to issue notes subject to federal supervision and control. Now it happens that this very privilege is embraced in the report of the monetary commission, the last paragraph of which makes provision for admitting 'any bank or banking association incorporated by special law of any State, or organized under the general laws of any State' to become a national bank under the system proposed, 'with the same powers and privileges, and subject to the same duties, liabilities, and regulations in all respects, as shall have been prescribed for associations originally organized as national banking associations under the proposed act.' . . . . . .

"The monetary commission makes the point that if the banks of the United States are not generally sound, nothing is sound, and that government bonds are in that case worthless. This is manifestly true. The Government derives its sustenance from the surplus of goods produced by the people. This surplus is to a very large extent lodged in the banks. The latter hold the substance of what the Government lives on, and if they fail the Government must fail at the same instant of time. Hence it is argued that any system of bank-note issues which provides fully for accidental and occasional failures will be as safe as government-bond security.

"It is said, however, that if government-bond security is not required, banks will be started expressly to swindle the public by their note issues—that designing rascals will go into the business in order to put out notes, get value for them, and then abscond. This objection overlooks the fact that no bank can be organized without a certificate from the Controller of the Currency. The discretion has been wisely left to him to grant the certificate or not. . . . Of course, there will be occasional bank failures, but the plan provides for the protection of note-holders in such cases. There is no reason why the system should not work as well here as it does in Canada, where the notes of a failed bank are secured by a common guaranty fund and a first lien on the assets, and where no losses to note-holders ever occur. On the contrary, the notes of failed banks in Canada generally command a small premium because they draw interest from the day of the failure.

"It is quite easy to engraft this system upon the state banks of the South. If it is good for the national banks, it is good for them also. We believe with Mr. De Saussure that the adoption of it by Congress would detach so large a support from the Bryanites that their control of the Democratic Party would be severely shaken if not lost in the next Presidential campaign."—*The Evening Post* (*Ind.*), *New York*.

RUMORS OF SECRETARY GAGE'S RESIGNATION.

WASHINGTON correspondents are responsible for the story that differences between Secretary Gage and the President regarding measures of currency reform which ought to be pushed by the Administration, caused the Secretary to tell the President that if his policy did not meet the approval of the Administration he would tender his resignation. If any such an intimation were made in conversation with the President, it is emphatically asserted that the President did not desire it. The declaration of Secretary Gage, to the effect that the object of currency reform should be to place this country more firmly on the gold standard, excited the opposition of Senator Wolcott and other Republican advocates of bimetalism, and it is supposed that their criticisms gave rise to the story that Mr. Gage had said he would not stand in the way of the President's policy. The Hartford *Evening Post*, owned by the President's private secretary, Mr. Porter, says of the relations between the President and Secretary in part:

"There is no truth in the assertions or insinuations that President McKinley desires that Secretary Gage retire from the Cabinet. The Secretary's financial views are excellent and just what ought to be expected from an expert, who doubtless would prefer a purely financial position to one that must carry with it some political astuteness, some statesmanship. Against his bill, which is radical, nothing can be said from the radical standpoint. It ought to be, and will be, considered as embodying the views of the extreme gold wing of the party. The other bills before the committee indicate other views. The President's recommendations are of the same nature as some of Secretary Gage's. And when the monetary commission finally reports, its views will be found somewhat different from the others. . . . . .

"The President favors doing that which is for the best interest of the people. The great mass must always be taken into consideration. Their prejudices to a degree must be consulted. . . . If there is a safe middle way between what the bankers, business men, and other people want, that is the course to pursue. President McKinley can be depended upon to support the Republican platform. At a Republican conference in Indianapolis yesterday, Senator Fairbanks quoted the President as saying to him: 'I am going to keep the bond. I am going to vindicate the sound-money plank in the St. Louis platform.' How absurd to say, as anti-Republicans are saying, that Secretary Gage is to be forced from the Cabinet. If he goes it will be of his own free will, because he prefers private to public life."

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CARTOON AND QUIP ON THE CHINESE SITUATION.

THE situation in China opens up a fresh field for the cartoonists and paragraphers, which they are not slow in cultivating. The artists portray some grotesque features of the developments, while the funny men seem to find texts bearing on almost every other question under the sun as well as on the Chinese Empire itself. An idea of the productive capacity of the Chinese soil under American cultivation may be obtained from a grouping of cartoons and paragraphs.

THE partition of China has not yet reached the arbitration stage.—*The Ledger, Philadelphia.*

There is a palpable straining for high-sea effects in the latest European concert.—*The Tribune, Detroit.*

CHINA is in a way to become recognized as the resort of the oppressors of all nations.—*The Sentinel, Milwaukee.*

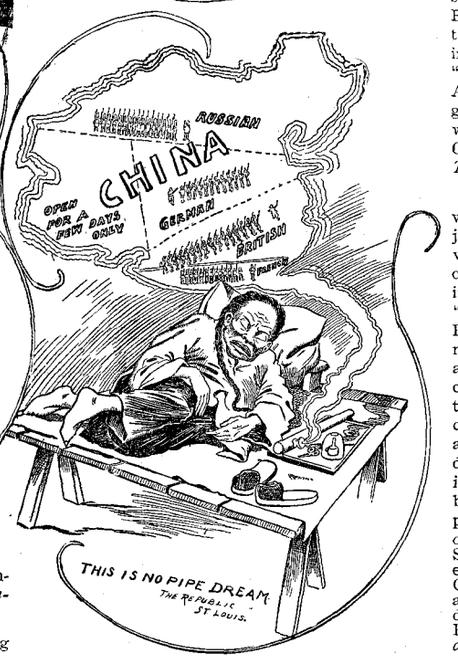
IN Wei-Hai-Wei the Japs have captured one of the finest college yells on the map.—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

ALL Europe appears to have agreed upon a policy of international spoliation for plunder only.—*The Inter Ocean, Chicago.*

THE Emperor of Korea devoutly hopes that commerce will not require his annihilation along with that of the seals.—*The Star, Washington.*

THE incidental troubles which will follow the introduction of war into China are most apparent to the proofreaders.—*The Post, San Francisco.*

A COMPULSORY SWORD DANCE
"IN THE NAME OF CIVILIZATION AND CHRISTIANITY" ITALIANS
EUROPE
KEEP OFF THE GRASS!
IT'S FUN FOR EUROPE, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE DEATH FOR THE CHINAMAN.
THE TORONTO NEWS



IN justice to themselves the powers should require China to pay an indemnity to cover the costs of dividing the empire.—*The Sentinel, Indianapolis.*

THE natives of the outlying provinces of China are kept busy changing their clothes to suit their nationalities. To remain a citizen of China a man has to keep on a dead run toward Peking.—*The Journal, Indianapolis.*

CHINA still has the satisfaction of knowing that there isn't one of the nations threatening her that would trust the others as far as a man could throw a boulder with a broken arm, and there is some hope in that.—*The Evening Post, Chicago.*

"PEACE hath her victories no less renowned than war," quotes England as she winks the other eye and guarantees the Chinese debt.—*The News, Indianapolis.*

JAPAN is so busy retaining its grip upon Wei-Hai-Wei these days that it has given up its former deep interest in Ha-Wa-Ii.—*The Tribune, Minneapolis.*

A FEW hundred years from now, perhaps, a mixed population of Russians, French, Germans, English, and other nationalities will be rallying to the battle-cry, "China for Chinese!" And the original Mongolian will be on a reservation, supported by the Government.—*The Times, Washington.*

THE concert of Europe would do something to justify its existence if it were to bring the career of Monte Carlo as an international gambling "hell" to a close. The Prince of Monaco, the ruler of the tiny state, is about to renew the concession of the gaming tables to the Casino company for about two and one half millions of dollars, spot cash, a promise by the company to build a new theater, and pay about four millions of dollars more in 1913. Some time this thing will end, but not until after China has been divided and the pagan world redeemed by Christian Europe.—*The Republican, Springfield.*

A FAMOUS TRADES-UNION CASE.

IF a representative of a trades-union, by threatening a strike, be instrumental in securing the discharge of employees objectionable to the union, is the union representative liable for damages? This is a question, after years of consideration and reconsideration by various judicial tribunals in England, to which the court of the House of Lords finally answers, No.

An Important Case.—"The facts were as follows: Two shipwrights, Flood and Taylor, were employed by the Glengall Iron Company to repair a ship, then lying in one of their docks. The Boilermakers' Union thereupon objected, claiming that shipwrights must not work at iron works on an iron ship, and that such work could only be done by members of their union. The union sent Allen, its delegate, to the Glengall Company, who told the manager that unless Flood and Taylor were discharged all the members of the Boilermakers' Union in the employ of the company would be called out. The result was that Flood and Taylor were discharged, and they then brought suit for damages against Allen for maliciously procuring their dismissal.

"The case was tried before a court and jury, and the latter awarded £20 damages to the plaintiffs, finding that the defendant had maliciously induced the Glengall Company to discharge them. The case was carried through the various courts of law, Lord Chief Justice Russell himself deciding in the high court of appeals in favor of the plaintiffs, until finally it was brought before the House of Lords.

"That tribunal now reverses the decision of the lower courts, the majority of the lords holding that Allen's conduct did not amount to legal coercion and intimidation, and that the Glengall Company in discharging Flood and Taylor followed the course most conducive to their own interest. Consequently Allen was not liable for damages to the plaintiffs.

"The case has been pending for several years, and, owing to the fact that it raised a question never before determined by the courts, has excited more than usual interest among labor organizations. It apparently makes the walking delegate a more important personage than ever."—*The Times-Herald (Rep.), Chicago.*

Minority Judges Were Right.—"It was taken from the Court of Appeals to the House of Lords and heard there before seven law lords—all most eminent judges. When it had been argued there was much differences of opinion among the judges, and they therefore called in the judges of the lower courts to hear another argument of the case with them and give them the benefit of their advice. At this second hearing ten additional judges were added to the court.

"When the case came to be decided it was found that there was a great divergence of opinion among the judges. The judges

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who were called in had no vote in rendering the decision. They could only express their opinions in the way of advice. The case was actually decided by what are called the law lords—that is, the judges who have seats in the House of Lords. Of these, six were for reversing the decisions of the lower courts and three were for maintaining them, and among the judges who were called in there was a great variety of opinion. The net result was that thirteen judges who heard the case thought that Flood and Taylor had a right of action against Allen, while eight judges thought they had none. But a majority of these eight were law lords and they decided the case, so that the case now makes it law that men in the situation of Flood and Taylor have no right to sue a man in the situation of Allen.

"We have thought of the case a good deal and are inclined to the opinion that the minority of the judges—those who made the law of the case, are right.

"The case amounts to no more than this: Some of the workmen were willing to work with others. They had a perfect right to make this choice if they chose to. Having come to this conclusion, they had a perfect right to notify their employer that they would not remain in his employment if he retained the objectionable ones. Having the right to notify him themselves, they had an equal right to send their agent Allen, with their message to him. Allen did, therefore, no more than what the workmen themselves might have done, and as they would not have been liable, neither was he liable.

"There is a good deal in the very elaborate opinions of some of the judges to which we are not able to give our assent. But as for the particular point decided, we think the minority was right and that the majority would have imposed an intolerable restriction upon the liberty of the citizen."—*The Times*, *Richmond*.

Personal Liberty and Malice.—"The question which really caused most trouble in the case may be stated thus: A, for objects of his own, persuades B to discharge C, as B has a right to do. Can C sue A, and if he shows that some improper (*i.e.*, selfish) motive operated on A's mind, recover damages? This and all the questions presented were fully disposed of by Lord Herschell's judgment, and his exposition of the law is so luminous that we can not do better than follow it. It should be said in advance that the trial judge, Mr. Justice Kennedy, held that no case of conspiracy, coercion, or intimidation had been made out, but left two questions to the jury: (1) Did Allen maliciously induce the company to discharge the plaintiff? (2) Did Allen maliciously induce the company not to engage the plaintiff? Both these questions were answered in favor of the plaintiff, and damages were awarded. The question on which the judges were asked to advise was: 'Assuming the evidence given by the plaintiff's witnesses to be correct, was there any evidence of a cause of action fit to be left to the jury?'

"Lord Herschell, after stating the facts, said that the question before the court was whether the findings of the jury entitled the plaintiff to a judgment. This question, he said, must be answered in the negative (because the defendant had done nothing unlawful) unless the finding that his behavior was 'malicious' made him liable. This made it essential to determine what 'malice' meant, because there could be no greater danger to a community than that a jury should be 'at liberty to impose the penalty of paying damages for acts which are otherwise lawful because they choose' to call them malicious. He then showed that the judges who took the opposite view from him, in attempting to define malice, had got no further than making it equivalent to some sort of bad motive, or 'such a disregard of his neighbor as no honest and fair-minded man ought to resort to.' But this is no legal test, because it 'makes men's responsibility for their actions depend on the fluctuating opinions of the tribunal before whom the case may chance to come, as to what a right-minded man ought or ought not to do in pursuing his own interests.'

"He then cites some cases in which it seems to have been suggested that legal malice includes persuasion where the object is to benefit the person who uses the persuasion at the expense of another, and points out that numberless instances may be put where such persuasion, 'which is of constant occurrence in the affairs of life,' is not considered even reprehensible. One of the commonest illustrations would be persuading a workman to strike, but Lord Herschell puts his whole reasoning in a nutshell, and enforces it by a homely illustration, easily understood by every one, man or master, employer or employed. Every one, he says, has a right to pursue his employment without molestation or obstruction, but this is only a deduction from a wider right to do what we please generally, and this wider liberty includes the right to say what we please (the right of free speech)—*i.e.*, to exhort, command, advise, and induce, provided we do not slander, or deceive, or commit any other legal wrong. Unless one is shown thus to have abused his right, he can not be called upon to justify himself because his words may interfere with some one else in his calling. If the butler, says Lord Herschell, quarrels with the cook, and tells his master that they can not remain under the same roof, and thus induces him to discharge the cook, must the butler pay the cook damages?

"While finding the decision entirely in accord with the general drift of American authority, we should be inclined to suggest that in this class of cases another principle, which for some reason judges and counsel of great eminence often fail to notice, has an important bearing on the true conclusion. This is the principle that, as a rule, legal liability only exists when the efficient cause of the damage complained of is found in the defendant's act. When it is found in the voluntary act of a third person, the defendant is not liable, because he is not, in fact, as men look at such matters, responsible. In Allen *vs.* Flood the act which caused the damage was the act of the master and not of Allen. He had a perfect liberty of choice to discharge or not to discharge, and the discharge was consequently his individual act. But for this principle, legal responsibility, as we know it, would cease to exist, and a new system would be introduced, under which a man could not open his mouth in any matter in which he had an interest, without running great risk of an action for damages. The Lord Chancellor, in his opinion, actually goes so far as to suggest that the lawfulness of what we say or do depends on there being no 'indirect motive' present; the prevailing opinion is founded on what we believe to be the sound and ancient principle, that civil liability has no necessary connection with motive, but is closely and inevitably related to that notion of responsibility which we apply every day to one another, in our ordinary dealings and judgments."—*The Evening Post*, *New York*.

THE GERMAN-AMERICAN PRESS ON IMMIGRATION.

THE German-American press shows unusual interest in the immigration question coincident with the reappearance of proposed legislation in Congress. Its sympathies are exclusively on the side of the immigrant, and no distinction as to nationality is made. The educational test is rejected on the ground that every immigrant able and willing to work increases the national wealth of America, and that our own masses are not sufficiently educated to apply the test to themselves which the foreigner is to be made to undergo. The *Abend Post*, Chicago, is very wroth with Professor Lombroso, of Italy, for lending his name to the Nativists by contributing an article some time ago to *The North American Review* which is not very flattering to the immigrants. The *Abend Post* goes so far as to express doubt that Lombroso wrote the article himself, and adds that "if he did, it is proof how advantageous it is to have a name. *The North American Review* would hardly have taken such stuff from an unknown writer." The paper then proceeds to cut up the article in a lengthy review to the following effect:

There is no excuse for the statement that crime is more frequent whenever immigration is very strong, for a close examination of the statistics on the subject dispels that idea. Massachusetts, the State which Lombroso regards as the best behaved, has no less than 42.2 per cent. of immigrants among its inhabitants. Wyoming, supposed to be very wicked because of its immigrants, has only 32.5 per cent. of them. There were in jail in 1890—the census year which Lombroso uses for his calculations—3,045 persons of native birth convicted of murder or manslaughter, and only 1,163 of foreign birth, and neither the colored population nor the women are included. The percentage of criminals is therefore nearly the same for natives and foreigners. Lombroso accepts the statement that the Italians furnish a large percentage of criminals as correct; but he refuses to make allowances for them. He attributes the frequency of crime in our Southern States to the warmer climate. As if Italy and Spain were not warm! It is true enough that the children of the immigrants furnish a large percentage of criminals, but a glance at the criminal list shows chiefly Irish, not Italian or Hungarian names. Yet the writer of the article seems to be entirely ignorant of the fact that we have Irish criminals.

The *Amerika*, St Louis, points to the fact that foreign nations are not at all willing to let us have immigrants, and wants to know where America's phenomenal progress would be without

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them. The *Westliche Post*, St. Louis, thinks the President himself is no longer for the restriction of immigration, but the Louisville *Anzeiger* doubts that McKinley "has changed into a lamb-like Paulus from a raving Saulus" in this matter. The *Staats-Zeitung*, New York, makes fun of the pretensions of the anti-immigration element on the score of education, while our own percentage of analphabets is so large. Moreover, if we examine into the actual knowledge of the people who have been educated at our country schools, we will come off still worse in comparison. The same journal proceeds as follows:

"We need the strong hands of the immigrants for work which people like Gompers and Powderly, who are always wagging their jaws, will not do. We need not go far for an example. In Long Island there are large numbers of Italians employed in making wild land habitable. That is hard work, and hard work our native-born young men shun as the devil shuns holy water. The work is badly paid, and, if the industrious and frugal Italians did not do it, nobody would do it. They have increased the prosperity of the district, and have pushed out nobody. Suppose a large percentage of them can not read, does that make any difference? . . . The immigrant has substituted rational agriculture for the senseless exploitation of the soil which has forced the New England people to go westward in search of virgin soil. They have built roads, and helped to maintain the Union; they have, to make it short, created the prosperity of America. We suppose that is the reason why miserable souls of the Gompers and Powderly type are against them."

The *Anzeiger des Westens*, St. Louis, is tired of the assertion that the immigrants, tho they do not belong to the highest type of Europeans, compare unfavorably with average Americans in morality. "To produce an unfavorable effect," says the paper, "statisticians fail to mention that the immigrants are nearly all adults and chiefly males. In calculating the percentage of criminals among the native-born population minors are included. If the percentage of the adult natives were compared with that of the adult immigrants, it would be found that the natives furnish a much larger contingent of criminals than the foreigners." The *Correspondent*, Baltimore, says:

"The following case illustrates better than anything else how void of sense many of our laws are: Some years ago an American diplomat made the acquaintance of a Vienna firm dealing in barrel-staves, which they received chiefly from Crain, Croatia, Slavonia, and the southwest of Hungary, where the material is good and the people trained in cutting the staves. He convinced them that America could furnish better and cheaper material. The firm purchased tracts of forest land in Mississippi, and hundreds of men were set to work in a part of the country where formerly no one lived. Thousands of dollars were paid in taxes, the transportation companies profited, and a new industry had been created in America. Yet because the stave-cutters who know best how to work for the Austrian customer are chosen among the men who did such work in Austria they are treated as contract laborers; for our Nativists regard as a criminal every man who only seeks to do useful work here, but does not care to stay in the country."

The *Tageblatt*, Philadelphia, says:

"The politicians fancy that the workingmen are solid for the exclusion of immigrants. They ought to be enlightened. We are not for a German agitation, such as Dr. Senner wishes to create in New York. Such an agitation would do more harm than good. But the workingmen must reject anti-immigration legislation when it is based upon the assumption that the laboring-classes will profit by it. The counter movement must, therefore, be taken in hand by the Socialists. Demonstrations should be organized throughout the country, and the resolutions adopted in mass-meetings should be sent to Congress."

The *Volksfreund*, Chicago, says:

"It would be very foolish for the Democrats to support any bill which still further hampers immigration. Whether the immigrant can read a few lines or not is a matter of small importance. The main question is whether he is able to maintain himself and his family. If an educational test is to be made at all, it should be extended to citizens born here as well. That the Republicans will not agree to, for they know that the ignorance of their own supporters is colossal. There is still time to protest, and it should be used in demonstrating to Senators and Representatives that further restriction is not advisable."

German-American papers think it passing strange that only the Italians, Hungarians, and Poles are mentioned as samples of undesirable immigrants, tho the educational standard of immigrants from English-speaking countries is very low, and their contingent of criminals exceptionally high.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

NEGROES AND DISFRANCHISEMENT.

THE means by which it is sought to accomplish the practical disfranchisement of negroes in Southern States are called to public attention again by reason of a clause of the new constitution in South Carolina, which did not take effect until January 1, 1898. This clause provides that a person, otherwise qualified, shall be registered, if he can read and write any part of the constitution submitted to him, or can show that he has paid taxes on property amounting to $300. Under the new constitution, several years have elapsed during which, to be registered, it was necessary for a person to understand and explain any article of the constitution, if read to him. Mississippi requires ability to read or understand the constitution, and the call for a constitutional convention to be held soon in Louisiana has the enactment of a similar provision in view.

Tests for Citizenship Should be Increased.—"There are a great many more negroes than white people in South Carolina, but as a consequence of this registration system the electorate of the State now consists of about ninety thousand white voters, and only ten or twelve thousand colored voters. Those persons now on the rolls will be entitled to vote as long as they live. The great mass of illiterate colored voters is thus completely disfranchised. From the beginning of 1898 no man can be enrolled unless he is assessed upon three hundred dollars' worth of property, or is able to read and write. The understanding clause has so worked as to place most of the white voters on the rolls regardless of illiteracy, while the black illiterates are nearly all excluded. Henceforth, however, the blacks and whites will have to meet the same tests. Many well-informed friends of the colored race are firmly of the opinion that the new South Carolina arrangements are to be welcomed rather than condemned. The coming generation will value citizenship the more highly because the exercise of full political rights can only be gained by resolute effort to advance in the scale of intelligence and prosperity.

"The South Carolina and Mississippi provisions which discriminate against illiteracy have something in common with the pending immigration bill that Senator Lodge advocates so strongly, which applies the reading and writing test to new arrivals from other countries. . . . The cement that holds together our great nation is the widely diffused knowledge of the English language. There would be no hardship whatever in requiring that no naturalized citizen should be allowed to vote until he was able to speak, read, and write the English language, and could pass a creditable examination in the American system of government. The proposed immigration measure simply requires the reading test, and gives no preference to the English language over any other. But the subsequent tests for full citizenship should be made far more severe."—*The Review of Reviews, New York.*

Process of Disfranchisement.—"The constitution framed in 1875, modeled on that of Missouri adopted five years earlier, required that an applicant for registration as a voter should be able to read any section of the state constitution 'or understand and explain it when read to him.' It was clearly seen at the outset that this 'understanding' provision could be manipulated by election officials in a way to bar out few whites and let in few blacks. The event has fully corroborated this forecast.

"The registration books of the State have just been closed, and we are informed that they contain the names of about 90,000 whites out of the 99,334 of those entitled by age to claim the right of voting, and only about 12,000 blacks out of the 132,949 men of that color above twenty-one years of age. It is not believed for a moment that a really honest application of the reading and understanding test would have resulted in any such wholesale exclusion of the blacks. But even this condition does not satisfy the white voters. After the 1st of January, 1898, according to the same constitution, an applicant for the suffrage will be required to read and write any section of the constitution, or to show that he owns and has paid taxes on property assessed as worth at least $300.

"Even the 12,000 blacks now admitted may find themselves disfranchised at the end of ten years—the period during which the present registration will stand. Good care will doubtless be taken to shut out few whites. The right of a State to adopt a severe test for suffrage is indisputable, but how is an unfair and

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one-sided enforcement of the law to be prevented? It is significant that South Carolina is the first State to return to a property qualification. The last States to abandon it were Rhode Island and Delaware."—*The Evening Post* (*Ind.*), *Chicago.*

Louisiana and Connecticut.—"The assumption on the part of *The Inquirer* [Philadelphia] that the constitutional provisions to be created in Louisiana will be enforced against the negro and not against the illiterate pauper white, is purely gratuitous, with no facts to support it. The law will be as fair a one as that which exists in Connecticut and not so stringent. The Connecticut law has plainly been framed to get rid of the naturalized foreigners who have become so numerous in that State. It not only provides that voters shall be able to read and understand the state constitution, but that they must be able to read it in English.* The great bulk of the negroes in Louisiana are illiterate and irresponsible. The purpose of providing an educational and property qualification for suffrage will be to get rid of them. There is no disguise of that fact any more than there is on the part of the people of Connecticut that they seek to get rid of the foreign vote.

"The admission made by *The Inquirer* that the portion of the Fourteenth Amendment which it quotes was intended solely for application in the Southern States was superfluous. It has always been well understood that the ultra acts of the reconstruction period were both sectional and partizan. They came of the great animosity toward the South existing at that period, and were further intended to strengthen the Republican Party in its hold on power. The enfranchisement of the horde of untutored and impoverished blacks was one of the most flagrant political crimes that history records. The fact that the negroes were not able to hold the supremacy granted them by law any longer than it was enforced by Federal bayonets was clear proof of their incompetency to govern."—*The American* (*Dem.*), *Nashville.*

Why the North is Indifferent.—"The Providence (R. I.) *Journal* says that the people of the North look complacently on the 'schemes that are being carried on in the South to disfranchise the negro,' and that many Northerners express their approval of these changes because they realize that negro suffrage has not been the success that was hoped.

"This being interpreted means that the Republicans of the North have learned that the negro vote in the South, instead of being a benefit to the party, has had the effect to keep the entire South in the Democratic column. But for the negro vote, the whites of the South would long ago have divided on economic questions, and there would have been in every Southern State at least a respectable Republican minority with chances in some of the States, every now and then, of a Republican victory.

"This would have been better for all concerned, for if there is one thing that the South needs to-day, it is a prudent, respectable, and honest opposition in each and every State to the dominant party."—*The Times* (*Dem.*), *Richmond.*

Negro-Suffrage Wrong Must be Remedied.—"To accept as political equals a multitude of freed slaves who were scarcely more than savages, and at the best barbarians, was in the beginning a sheer necessity, impose by overwhelming force; but that the evil was allowed to continue after the force was removed can only be explained by the fact that politicians had learned to wield the masses of the ignorant and degraded voters in forwarding private and personal interests and ambitions, and altho the entire body politic was made the victim of unutterable political corruption, the political bosses were able to count on the supine inaction or indifference of the so-called good citizens, and so enormous evils have been endured and perpetuated until Louisiana politics have become a byword. . . . . .

"The people of this State can not neglect the approaching opportunity to purify their political methods and to insure honest government in their state, parish, and municipal governments, without covering themselves with lasting disgrace."—*The Picayune* (*Dem.*), *New Orleans.*

The Danger in the Plan.—"In brief, the danger of the whole Southern process of negro disfranchisement is that it closes the approved modern vent to popular humors. There are lesser evils. For instance, the South Carolina Democrats have got so used to cheating the negroes illegally at the polls that now that they have made the process legal they can not get rid of the habit, and so cheat each other. At least this is the plaint of the Columbia *State*, a journal representative of the dominant faction. But the chief disadvantage is as we have put it. To withdraw from half the male adult citizenship of any State all legal means of expressing its opinions or its prejudies, however unenlightened, in public affairs is to prepare that much of social dynamite for the torch of the fanatic and demagog. When the explosion comes the black-belt States of the South can look nowhere for sympathy. They have laid the train."—*The Press* (*Rep.*), *New York.*

[* The World Almanac for 1898, in its table, said to have been corrected to date by state attorney-generals, says that the Connecticut requirement is, "Citizen of the United States who can read English language." The Massachusetts provision is, "Citizen who can read and write." California excludes from suffrage "a person unable to read the Constitution in English and to write his name."—Ed. LITERARY DIGEST.]

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

IT is believed that General Blanco's autonomy policy has expired and that the underwriters will not renew it.—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

THE farther he gets from Cuba the bolder General Weyler becomes.—*The News, Detroit.*

CAN it be possible that the Republican legislature in Ohio will go Democratic at this stage of the game?—*The Times-Herald, Chicago.*

"BILLINGER is going to lecture on the Klondike."

"Fudge, he has never been there."

"Well, neither have the people who will hear him lecture."—*Tid-Bits.*

"OF course," observed Xerxes the King, "my will is law." "Doubtless," answered the wise man of the court, after consulting a few authorities. "That is to say, if your Majesty doesn't leave too large an estate."—*The Record, Chicago.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

SARAH BERNHARDT'S NEW SOCIALISTIC DRAMA.

MUCH curiosity and expectancy had been excited in Paris and elsewhere by the announcement of the production of a revolutionary play, turning upon the conflict between capital and labor, at the Renaissance, Sarah Bernhardt's theater. The dramatist was a new man to the stage, Octave Mirbeau, one of the younger journalists, radicals, and novelists. The title of the play, "Les Mauvais Bergers" (Bad Shepherds) was rather indefinite, but Mirbeau was suspected of strong socialist sympathies.

The first production was attended by stormy scenes. The galleries noisily applauded certain portions of the drama, while the boxes and stalls cheered very different portions. There were threats of collision between these representatives of the several social classes. As a whole, however, the play is not entirely satisfactory either to the conservatives or to the radicals. The plot is as follows—the account being taken from the Paris *L'Aurore*, edited by Clemenceau:

Hargand is an ironmaster and large employer of labor. When the play opens, his five thousand men are on the eve of a great strike. The first act introduces the audience to the family of an old, wretched workman, *Thient*, whose wife is dying in the next room and whose daughter, *Madeleine* [Bernhardt's rôle], a pale, intense, courageous work-girl, tends two infants in dirty cradles. The surroundings are squalid and mean beyond description. The old man bows to the inevitable, but he feels that "it is not just," and he continually repeats this phrase without, however, encouraging any active resistance. *Jean Raule*, a young and intelligent anarchist, who has worked and agitated against "capital" in many countries, is also an employee of *Hargand*. He almost despairs of success in arousing his fellow workers, but he falls in love with *Madeleine*, and his faith in the future is strengthened by his love. He asks *Madeleine* to aid him in bringing about a strike, but she hesitates. The act closes with the death of *Thient's* wife, *Madeleine* weeping bitterly and the throbbing of the machines in the adjoining works distinctly heard.

Hargand has a son, *Robert*, who is a Christian Socialist and who has espoused the cause of his father's employees. This son is at first regarded with suspicion by *Raule* as a demagog seeking political elevation, but he soon becomes convinced of his sincerity and humanity. *Hargand* himself is no overbearing tyrant, no cruel slave-driver, but a rather benevolent capitalist who has tried to improve the condition of his men.

The situation develops; a strike is brought about; the luxurious mansion of the employer is threatened by a mob of enraged and disorderly strikers. *Hargand*, against his own inclinations, appeals for military aid. He reproaches his son for having encouraged the strikers, but he is persuaded by the latter to receive a deputation and discuss the strikers' grievances. *Jean Raule* is naturally the spokesmen, and his insolent tone and extravagant demands are resented by *Hargand*. The demands are an eight-hour workday, "security of work," a popular library for the employees, and some minor things. The discussion becomes violent and personal, and *Hargand* drives the deputation, together with his son, from his presence. The arrival of the troops is then announced.

At the end of a five-months' struggle, involving terrible suffering, the men begin to entertain the idea of surrender. Confidence in *Raule* is shaken, and at a mass-meeting in an adjoining forest the discord becomes so acute that *Raule* is in danger of being torn to pieces. Then *Madeleine*, in a passionate harangue, vindicates her lover and changes the attitude of the men by her fiery eloquence. Force is decided on, and an attack is made on the works. The final act shows the works destroyed, houses wrecked and burned, and scores of strikers dead—killed by the troops. Shrieking women search for their near and dear ones, and the principal actors are brought upon the stage dead or dying. *Raule* is dead, *Hargand's* son dead, and *Hargand*, in despair, offers to give up all his wealth for the life of his son. He even confesses that he has been in the wrong. *Madeleine* falls dead on her lover's body.

In pointing the moral of this play, which is admitted to be thrilling and effective, critics differ widely. Clemenceau himself defends Mirbeau in a vigorous editorial against the charge of advancing no solution of the problem presented by him. He also pays his respects to those who demand the suppression of the last act as prejudicial to public peace. We translate freely a portion of his remarks:

"The social question on the stage! I watched the sad life of men, employers and laborers, arrayed against each other in a tragic struggle of infuriated egoism, and the words of Gambetta occurred to me—'There is no social question.' What is it that overwhelms us in this simple and strong play of Mirbeau, if not the consciousness that the scenes witnessed are from actual, living reality. What do these people want? To live! . . . . . .

"In this drama the whole social question is embodied, presented by art so complete and puissant that the author effaces himself and we see nothing but real figures from life. Here we have man in his benevolence, ferocity, verity; the pitiless, implacable, tortured, and torturing, marching with bandaged eyes toward better things.

"I see that Mirbeau is criticized for having shown no way out, for having reached no conclusion. Showing us life, he has concluded as life itself does, in the terrible fecundity of sorrow. I agree that the wholesale condemnation of politicians and parliamentarians by *Jean Raule* as 'bad shepherds' can not remain without appeal. It is somewhat too sweeping an anarchistic judgment. I know something of the crimes and faults of public men in authority, but there are none the less among the leaders of the multitude true, elevated men who will make the progress of the future. And you, too, *Jean Raule*, what do you do, in your turn, besides leading men to their death?

"The slaughter in which the strike ends has offended the sensitive Parisians. But they can not deny the truth of the scenes. It seems to me they have better opportunities to protest against such things when the sanguinary reality is spread before them. 'Suppress the last act,' they say. Suppress, too, the same scenes in real life!

"Doubtless the time will come when our barbarous indifference will give place to grand, human compassion, of which we can only sing to-day, but which we dare not act upon. For having appealed to that time, which will make an epoch in history, Mirbeau and his interpreters should receive the applause of all men who hope for the happy justice of the human spirit delivered and rendered serene."

Charles Mastel, the critic of *L'Aurore*, says that for a long time the stage has not heard such a cry of alarm, such an appeal to justice. He differs from Clemenceau as regards the "moral" of the play. Instead of leaving the problem without a solution, Mirbeau, he thinks, has had the courage to vindicate the workman. "We see the striker," he says, "propose reasonable terms, the acceptance of which would obviate the catastrophe. We see these terms refused. If the striker kills, if he gets himself killed, it is because life is denied him. The employer himself is finally made to say: It is my fault."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Robbing America of Her Literary Laurels.—*The Bookman* (January) charges the English publishers with a suppression of truth in the case of meritorious works by American authors. Here is the charge, the evidence in support of it, and *The Bookman's* comments:

"The English have a pleasant little way, whenever they reprint an American book, of removing from its title-page all possible indications of its source. We said something about this two years ago, and several English publishers at once took umbrage at our remarks, and the ubiquitous Mr. Andrew Lang rushed into print to defend his employers. But here are two recent instances of how the thing works. A new edition of the Latin-French Dictionary of Quicherat has just appeared, and in it the Latin Dictionary of Lewis and Short, which is a purely American pub-

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lication, is credited to 'two English scholars.' This is because the Clarendon Press, which reprinted the book, after Oxford had adopted it as a standard, let it go forth as a purely British publication. Much the same thing happened in the case of one of Captain Mahan's works last summer. The English published it, suppressing the fact that its author was an officer of the United States navy. Consequently, the *Temps* of Paris spoke of Captain Mahan as an English naval officer, and Lieutenant Fitch, the American naval *attaché* at the embassay in Paris, had to write a letter to the *Temps* in order to make it correct this false ascription. As we said about two years ago, this sort of thing is neither just nor even honest, and we hope that American authors whose books find favor in English eyes will insist upon appearing as Americans, and thus gain for their country a credit which the English invariably begrudge it."

A DEFENSE OF THE POET-LAUREATE.

THE appointment of Alfred Austin as England's poet-laureate was, we are now told, "a foregone conclusion," and the flings that have been made at his expense since then and which continue to the present are the result of ill-conditioned journalistic jealousy. The writer who takes up the cudgels in Mr. Austin's defense is James Macray. Every London newspaper, he tells us, has on its staff or among its casual contributors at least one writer preeminently qualified, in his own judgment and that of his newspaper associates, for the post of poet-laureate. The fact that Mr. Austin, on the staff of *The Standard*, received the appointment, aroused the ill temper of all the other aspirants, and, with the single exception of Mr. Kipling, who has expressed his disgust over the abuse of Mr. Austin, they have set upon him with a "chorus of howls." Such is Mr. Macray's interpretation, in *The New Century*, of the attacks upon the successful poet. We give also what he says in accounting for the appointment:

"Mr. Austin's training and performances in the classical, only another name for the British or orthodox, school of poetry; his recent compositions of this sort on the death of the Duke of Clarence and the marriage of the Duke of York; his party services as journalist and pamphleteer; the valuable work done by him during thirty years as a principal writer for *The Standard* newspaper; his aptitude for a court position; his *savoir faire*; his knowledge of the world; his acceptability to the sovereign—these things conspired to make Mr. Austin's appointment a foregone conclusion. Those who had at all been behind the scenes remembered, too, that Mr. Austin was, except perhaps Mr. Frederick Greenwood, the only periodical writer who had been on really intimate terms with Lord Beaconsfield. That statesman had publicly congratulated Mr. Austin on furnishing, like Byron, another illustration of the truth that there is no such school as poetry for the writing of prose. Through her former Minister, the sovereign had become acquainted with Mr. Austin's 'Human Tragedy.'

"Under these circumstances, what was Lord Beaconsfield's successor to have done? . . . The simple truth, of course, is that unless a Conservative Premier had been prepared to snub, on principle, talent and service of any kind among his followers, and so to have made himself obnoxious to a charge of ingratitude equally impolitic and unjust, he could not have ignored Mr. Austin's claims. These were not approached by any other writer for the press. . . . No kind of obligation, official or traditional, rests upon the Crown or its advisers to select absolutely the foremost singer of his day. What is now generally expected by the public, who, after all, have as much right to a voice in the matter as the journalists, is that the laureate should combine established distinction in his craft with tolerable certainty of performance; that as a writer he should have made his mark; that as a poet he should have enough of inspiration at his command to turn off a respectable copy of verses on any subject such as that which, even in this prosaic age, sometimes presents itself, and appeals for commemoration in rime. Judged by these canons, Mr. Alfred Austin as laureate, so far from having failed, has been a distinct success. All the subjects officially eligible for his pen have been written also upon by his defeated rivals. If his performance had fallen short of theirs there might be some ground for complaint. As it is, from Sir Edwin Arnold to the youngest of the tribe, Mr. Austin has placed all competitors, even in respect of actual performance, at a distance from himself."

THE BALEFUL INFLUENCE OF WAGNERISM.

IT is generally accepted as one of the facts beyond dispute that Wagner established a new school in operatic music. Reginald de Koven says he did not succeed in doing any such thing. He has left followers and imitators; but no successor has appeared, and it is improbable, if not impossible, that one should appear in the future. Nor has Wagner succeeded in his attempt to found a new art-form in the music drama and force the public to accept it in lieu of the previous form.

From this it must not be supposed that Mr. de Koven is decrying the fame of Wagner; but he is very positive that Wagnerism—Wagner at second-hand—has for the time being practically killed opera as a form of art. We quote a part of what he has to say on the subject in *Scribner's Magazine* (December):

"More than a dozen years ago an eminent English critic, commenting on the signs of that imitation, that plagiarism of the Wagner manner already then evident among composers, pointed out the danger that would exist if Wagner's most enthusiastic supporters should attempt—as they certainly have done—to carry his views and theories even farther than he carried them himself. He says: 'This warns us of serious danger, danger that the free course of art may be paralyzed by a soulless mannerism worthy only of the meanest copyist; danger, on the other hand, of a reaction which will be all the more violent and unreasoning in proportion to the amount of provocation needed to excite it.' He remarks further, and with truth: 'It would take us a long day to tire of Wagner, but we can not take him at second-hand. "Wagnerism," nor gods nor men can tolerate.'

"Does not this warning seem almost prophetic? Are not the operatic composers of the day imitators almost to the extent of plagiarism? Are we not, indeed, getting 'Wagnerism' Wagner at second-hand *usque ad nauseam?* Are there not two perils, stagnation and reaction, which lie in wait for us? and does it not appear more than probable that between the two opera is likely to come to a considerable amount of grief? There is certainly stagnation in opera at the present day. Operatic managers all over the world are looking for operatic novelties and find none. Within the last decade the operas written which have any artistic significance, or even the slightest element of enduring merit and lasting popularity, might be counted on the fingers of one hand, and as a result of this undoubted stagnation are we not more than likely to get a reaction which may well be in the direction of simpler forms, and a more euphonious, less pedantic and involved expression of musical thought? As the future that lies before us, whatever it may be, must be prepared by a careful and unremitting study of the past, so the leader of the new period of operatic writing, who is certainly yet to appear, must look to the past for the model and the basis of his future work, just as Wagner looked back to Jacopo Peri. But how far is he to look back? In what mold will his work be cast? After what model shall he build? On the lines of the dramas of the 'Niebelungen Ring' or of an earlier work?

"The world's history and development has been always carried along by great men, but it is quite possible, and history has shown, that sometimes the greatness of a man may be so intense, so overpowering, as to impede and even arrest the development which he himself inaugurated. It may seem both heretical and paradoxical to say so, but, while exalting opera as an art-form to a position that it had never held before, Wagner, for the time being at least, practically killed opera as a form of art.

"With all his genius, with all his overwhelming individuality and influence, Wagner did not succeed in founding a school."

In destroying our operatic theories and pushing his own theories to an extreme of development—in "The Niebelungen Ring"—Wagner set up an impossible and impracticable standard of operatic construction. The public have been willing to accept his theories so long as they do not change, past recognition, opera

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as they have known it; but they will not permit the music-drama, however they may admire it, to supersede entirely that variety of art that has been the world's delight for two centuries and a half. Such is the attitude of the public, and if we could eliminate Wagnerism from among the composers we now have, we might have hopes of a reasonable and logical development in opera. The prevailing tendency of the age is individualism. Granting this, the future success of an opera must depend upon the forcibleness with which the characters are developed. The *leitmotiv* which Wagner invented is a stumbling-block to composers in this direction. What can be done without it has been shown by Verdi in his "Falstaff," of which de Koven says further:

"By discarding the *leitmotiv* entirely Verdi has attained a facility and diversity of musical expression, a power of faithful musical characterization, pictorial effect, and dramatic truth which has not been excelled, if equaled, by Wagner in his most transcendent flights. Here is a work which future operatic composers can study page by page, almost note by note, with advantage, for it contains the germ, at any rate, of a suggestion for a union of text and music quite other than that which Wagner outlined, and none the less admirable, which may well prove a guide and *vade mecum* to the opera-builders of the twentieth century."

IRISH LIFE AND ENGLISH LETTERS.

AUBREY DE VERE, who edifies and entertains us with his "Recollections" of a long life irradiated with fine scholarship, exalted ideals, and the intimate intercourse of famous men and women, among them being Wordsworth, Hartley Coleridge, Newman, Manning, and Carlyle, derived from his distinguished father, Sir Aubrey de Vere, the qualities of mind and heart which we find so admirable in his reminiscences. These begin in the Ireland of George III., at "Curragh Chase," the ancestral seat of the de Veres—the Norman name so proudly borne by the earls of Oxford. With the ardor and buoyancy of a fine poetic temperament surviving in old age, he tells us charming stories of his dear old home, beautified and hallowed by historic associations. He fondly pictures that stately dame, his grandmother, driving in the park with her four grays and an outrider, while his father, with whom she lived, had his four blacks, and took the road like a prince. Yet the poor adored them, and the intercourse of classes was familiar and kindly. There was the gathering of the humbler tenants on Sunday evenings at the gates of the long ash avenue for their rural dance, when some rosy peasant girl, half coquettish, half bashful, dropped a curtsey before one or another of the gallant visitors at the big house, challenging him to dance with her. The coach-and-four was not an ostentation, but a necessity, for the roads were rough and the hills were high.

De Vere's recollections of the Ireland of his youth are rich in incidents of the national recklessness, generous impulsiveness, and roystering hospitality. "In the last century," he says, "nearly every gentleman was put to bed drunk"; he had either to drink or fight. The hall door of a country house was left open all night; and he relates with disgust his later experience at a manor house near Bath, where, after strolling on the lawn in the moonlight when all the inmates were in bed, he tugged at the lock of the door and set a hundred bells clanging, high and low. Ladies and servants shouted "Fire!" and "Robbers!" and there was much display of night apparel and the views of remembered charms. "It was an awful sight!"

Most delightful is Sir Edward O'Brien, friend of the De Veres, who was regarded as an Irish chieftain by the masses in Old Thomond, for he was the direct descendant of Brian the Great, King of all Ireland, who at the battle of Clontarf put down forever the dominion of the Danes in Erin.

Sir Edward's tenants adored him, and no daughter of theirs was ever married without his consent, which was always bestowed, together with a pretty gown for the bride. He was full of wilfulnesses and quaint oddities:

"One day, as we sat after dinner over the wine and walnuts, he remarked, 'I have just been thinking that this is the year I have to die in.' My father replied: 'Nothing of the kind, Sir Edward; I never saw you better. You will probably live another dozen years.' Sir Edward was highly provoked. 'Do not say that, Sir Aubrey,' he rejoined; 'the head of our family always dies at the age I have now reached. It is our way; and I don't want to change it.' Soon afterward he spoke with more interest on some trivial topic of the day. His death occurred that year as he had predicted."

Sir Edward had the virtue of princes: he spoke his mind to every one, high or low. When the lord-lieutenant paid him a visit, he read him a lecture on his blunders of government; and to Aubrey de Vere he said, "I suppose you are Aubrey. I am told you write poetry. Is that a fact?" Aubrey confessed the soft impeachment, whereupon the O'Brien remarked: "I have no opinion of you minor poets. I respect Pope and Dryden and Milton, but that is because they have received the sanction of public opinion. I think very little of you minor poets."

One of the most delightful of Mr. de Vere's stories concerns an Irish priest who cultivated peculiar notions of conscience and duty. There was a boy whom the priest had taught to shoot, and as soon as he was big enough he bettered his instructions by shooting an agent. Then came remorse: "I'm tired out. I can't bear the pain in my heart any longer"; so he came to give himself up:

"'Is it to be hanged you have come here?' said the priest. 'It is, then, to be hanged, your reverence.' The priest replied: 'My boy, it is a very serious thing to die, and meet one's God. I'm afraid it's a long time since you were at mass and that you have forgotten your religion. Let me hear now if you can say the Apostles' Creed.' The youth strove to recite it, but failed. 'This is a strange thing,' the priest rejoined. 'Here is a man who does not know a B from a bull's foot, and yet he thinks he is fit to be hanged! Where are you living, my boy?' 'I am living down there, your reverence, about a mile to the west.' The priest answered, 'I will go to you every night about ten o'clock; I'd be afraid of going before it is dark, for I might be hanged myself as an accomplice; and as it is, that's likely enough, if they come upon us.' Every night the priest visited the self-condemned youth, and taught him the fundamental truths of the Christian faith, adding this promise: 'As soon as ever I find you are fit to be hanged, I will tell you so. Till then, don't dare to do anything of the kind.'"

Many nights, at the risk of his own life, the priest made his way to the boy and taught him—until that spurious repentance which is only remorse passed into that truer repentance which is of love, and is consoled by love:

"One night, however, before giving the youth his usual parting blessing, he said: 'I promised, my boy, to let you know when I considered you fit to be hanged; and now I have the satisfaction of assuring you that I never knew a man fitter to be hanged than yourself.'"

The lad informed against himself, and was transported—not hanged, as he and his priestly friend expected he would be.

In the spring of 1841 de Vere returned to England by way of Waterford and Wicklow. On the steamer at Kingston we are introduced to Daniel O'Connell, a big strong man—the eyes potent but crafty, the large mouth expressing humor and good-humor, the broad, strong forehead well built for butting his way through opposition. His language, tho abounding in drollery and "figure," was marked by force and precision.

De Vere passed several days, at this time, under Wordsworth's roof, and took long strolls with that devotee of nature. Subsequently, in an interesting letter to him, the poet writes: "Certain it is that old men's literary pleasures lie chiefly among the books they were familiar with in their youth; and this is still more

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pointedly true of men who have practised composition themselves."

And again: "Publication was ever to me most irksome; so that, if I had been rich, I question whether I should ever have published at all, tho I believe I should have written."

Conducted by Miss Fenwick to a cottage under Rydal Mount, Mr. de Vere found Hartley Coleridge at home—a white-haired apparition, wearing the semblance of youth, with delicate skin and vividly bright eyes—saying things strange and quaint—perfectly unaffected, always amusing, yet revealing a mind whose thoughts abode in regions as remote as the antipodes:

"It was a strange thing to see Hartley Coleridge fluctuating about the room, now with one hand on his head, now with both arms expanded like a swimmer's. There was some element wanting in his being. He could do everything but keep his footing, and doubtless in his inner world of thought it was easier for him to fly than to walk, and to walk than to stand. There seemed to be no gravitating principle in him. One might have thought he needed stones in his pockets to prevent his being blown away. But he is said to have always lived 'an innocent life, tho far astray,' and he might, perhaps, have been more easily changed into an angel than into a simply strong man. He was touchingly reverent when referring to religious subjects, and in reading aloud his father's hymn on Mont Blanc, whenever he came to the name of God it seemed as if he could hardly pronounce it."

De Vere says: "I threw off Byron early, as a vicious young horse throws off a bad rider; and I have outgrown Shelley, tho not all my admiration for his wonderful genius." Sir William Hamilton used to tell him that the shallow views of most of the scientific men he met at the British Association made him melancholy; and that almost the only Englishman of that time whom he regarded as a philosopher was Coleridge.

De Vere's account of the great Irish famine is most interesting, and in his relation of striking incidents he blends the practical with the picturesque, and the pathetic with the humorous, in admired disorder. He tells us of the helpless suffering in all classes, worst among the poor and lowly, but not confined to them nor to the men. He tells us of ladies who succumbed under the labors and the concealed privations of those days, over whom came a change which did not pass away for years. "The eyes that had witnessed what theirs had witnessed never wholly lost the look which then came into them, and youth had gone by before their voices recovered their earlier tone."

And then he describes the machinery of relief committees:

"Here are the *dramatis personæ* of one: (1st) A man of high principles, but so modest that he can seldom get in a word; (2d) a man who seconds every motion; (3d) a wrong-headed man who contradicts every one, and does not know what he himself wants; (4th) a quiet, dry official, who, when questioned, answers that he is there to execute orders, and, when threatened, replies that if his career should be suddenly closed by assassination, he supposes that some other official gentleman will receive orders and execute them; (5th) (outside) a gloomy-looking crowd staring in through the windows with sharp, wolfish eyes, a clasped fist, and the other hand clutching a neighbor's shoulder; (6th) a few little boys waiting for the 'scrimmage'; (7th) a frantic old woman screaming like a Banshee; (8th) a big man who lives on whisky and snuff, with great staring eyes, a gaping mouth wide open, and dilated nostrils as black as if the jackdaws had built their nests in them; (9th) a smiling young girl pushing through the crowd to sell her cakes, and civilly requesting a policeman to stand out of her way; and (10th) an angry multitude blowing horns in the distance. Perhaps, however, you will say that we must not pity ourselves (and self-pity is certainly one especial source of Irish weakness), merely because gentlemen who choose to boat on Bantry Bay, and measure their strength against the Atlantic waves, do not find the water as smooth as the Thames just above."

De Vere's relations with the Cardinals Newman and Manning were intimate and memorable. He met Newman in Oxford—a singularly graceful figure in cap and gown; the slight form and the gracious address might have belonged either to a youthful ascetic of the Middle Ages, or to a graceful and high-bred lady of his own day:

"He was pale and thin almost to emaciation, swift of pace, but, when not walking, intensely still, with a voice sweet and pathetic both, but so distinct that you could count each vowel and consonant in every word. When touching upon subjects which interested him much, he used gestures rapid and decisive, tho not vehement; and while in the expression of thoughts on important subjects there was often a restrained ardor about him, yet if individuals were in question he spoke severely of none, however widely their opinions might differ from his. As we parted, I asked him why the cathedral bells rang so loud at so late an hour. 'Only some young men keeping themselves warm,' he answered."

The intense personality of Newman was curiously illustrated by the remark of Woolner, the sculptor, as he contemplated in his studio the plastic cast he had made of the cardinal's bust. "Those marble busts around us represent some of the most eminent men of our time, and I used to look on them with pride. Something seems the matter with them now. When I turn from Newman's head to them, they look like vegetables!"

Then Mr. de Vere expatiates on the extreme intellectual self-possession of Cardinal Manning—"a quality in which he was in signal contrast to Carlyle, who seemed to me unable to do his thinking until he had worked himself up into an intellectual passion, as the lion is said to prepare himself for action of another sort by first lashing himself into a rage":

"The intensity of his nature, however, could not be doubted by any one who had seen him in church and at prayer. His stillness was one that seemed as if it could not have been shaken if the church had caught fire. Some human affections had also, it is said, acquired with him a character not less intense and indelible; but of these I had not been a witness, and never heard him speak. One of them was directed to his father. Every evening at Lavington he used to walk up to say his vespers in a little church where there were then few or no worshipers, wearing a cloak much the worse for the wear. It had been his father's."

Mr. de Vere is solicitous to impress upon his readers the significant fact that he is writing his "Recollections" and not his autobiography, for which he seems to entertain a wholesome scorn, as being a form of egotistical presentment with which the world has small concern. "Self," he says, "is a dangerous personage to let into one's book."

"THE GREATEST FIGURE IN GERMAN LITERATURE TO-DAY."

THIS superlative praise is awarded by Gustave Kobbé to the dramatist, Gerhardt Hauptmann: "He is the greatest figure in German literature—perhaps in all literature—to-day. He is the one living poet who is also a born writer of plays, the one living master of realism who is also a master of idealism." And yet there is, as yet, no published English translation of any of Hauptmann's plays, of which, tho he is but thirty-five, there are nine. While he is an exponent and leader of the new literary movement that sprang up in Germany about ten years after the Franco-Prussian war, he is not a "decadent." His plays are analytical; but they also have the throb of poetry, the warm glow of passion. He is no more to be classed with Ibsen or Maeterlinck than Goethe is. In one of his plays "Vor Sonnenaufgang" ("Before Sunrise") one of his characters speaks of Ibsen and Zola as follows: "They are not poets, they are necessary evils. What they offer us is medicine." "Hauptmann," observes Mr. Kobbé, "offers us drama, not physic; poetry, not pathology."

Hauptmann's latest drama, "Die Versunkene Glocke" ("The Sunken Bell"), has been described in these columns (May 22, 1897). His first drama, "Vor Sonnenaufgang" (1889) is described

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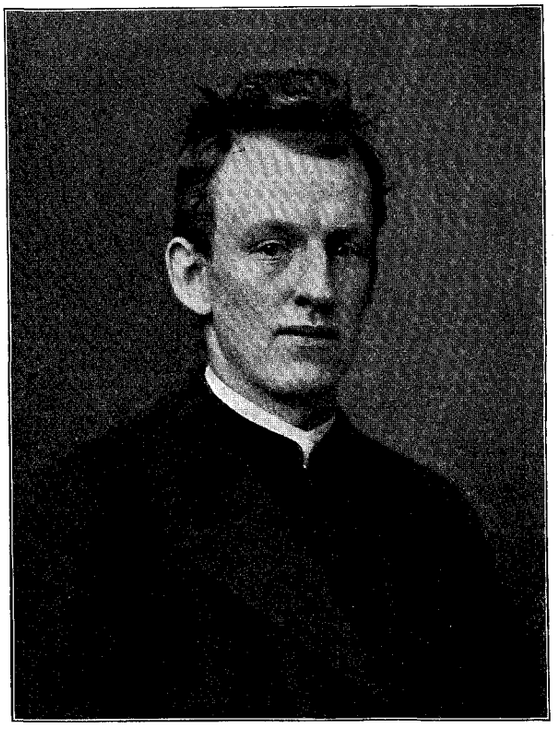
by Mr. Kobbé. We quote his description from *The Forum* (December) as follows:

"'Vor Sonnenaufgang' might be classed by some critics as an Ibsen play; for it deals in a strong and almost brutal manner with the curse of heredity. But thus early Hauptmann proves that, while he is a physiological expert, he is not a physician. He treats the subject—a family steeped in the curse of alcoholism—with the hand of a master who has studied the soul as well as the body; who knows his psychology as well as his physiology. The family which he holds up to our view is as thoroughly repulsive as any of the figures in Zola's 'L'Assommoir.' He shows us the household of a rich peasant, a household in which drunkenness and its attendant vices are rampant.

"In this loathsome household there blooms, like a flower between the crevices of a moldering wall, a pure and exquisite young girl, a daughter who has happily been brought up beyond



GERHARDT HAUPTMANN.

the contaminating influences of the corrupt life of this den of iniquity. It strikes terror to her innermost fiber; but, in what seems to be her darkest moment, there comes to her a promise of release. A social agitator, named *Loth*, whose special enthusiasm is temperance reform, arrives in the village. He meets *Helene;* and a mutual love soon ripens between them. To her, he seems a savior. But he has the weakness of his type: he has not mastered his principles; they have mastered him. Instead of controlling them, he is their slave; and, when he discovers that the curse of alcoholism rests upon *Helene's* family, he deserts her and leaves her to her fate, even tho he realizes the danger that she may, in despair, sink into the loathsome morals which forms her social environment. But the girl has a terrible courage with which to offset his weakness; and the climax which Hauptmann works out at the end of this play is one of the most awful, as well as one of the most powerfully constructed, tragedies that dramatic literature can offer.

"The girl, deserted by her lover, hears her drunken father approaching. Seizing his hunting-knife, she goes into an adjoining room. A servant, who is looking for her, enters the room into which she has just disappeared. A moment later, this servant, almost crazed with terror, rushes out, and, with piercing cries, dashes past the father, who utters a few thick, drunken exclamations as the curtain falls.

"It is interesting to note that in this, his very first drama Hauptmann shows, in the contrast between the exquisite and highly poetic character of *Helene* and the brutal realism of the dramatic *milieu*, that characteristic which gives him a unique place among modern dramatists—the impulse and ability to unite realism and idealism in one and the same play."

Mr. Koppé takes up the nine plays, one after another, and briefly describes the central motive of each: "Das Friedenfest" ("The Peace Festival"), "Einsame Menschen" ("Lonely Beings"), "Die Weber" ("The Weavers"), "Kollege Crampton" ("Colleague Crampton"), "Hannele's Himmelfahrt" ("Hannele's Ascension"), "Der Biberpelz" ("The Beaverpelt"), "Florian Geyer," "Die Versunkene Glocke" ("The Sunken Bell"). Of these, "Florian Geyer" (1895) is described as a failure, and "Der Biberpelz" (1893) as "a curiously contrived thieves' comedy of questionable value." The play just preceding this, "Hannele's Himmelfahrt," displays Hauptmann's power in blending realism and idealism as fully and effectively as anything he has written. We quote the description of this also:

"A young girl, a mere child, horribly bruised and beaten by a brutal father, seeks release from her sufferings by attempting to drown herself. She is saved, almost at the point of death, by a young schoolmaster, who, on a bitter winter's night, tenderly carries her in his arms to the poorhouse—the only place in the village district where he knows she can be cared for, the villagers themselves being too poor to undertake such a burden. The realism of the play lies in the wonderful reproduction of the atmosphere of the poorhouse, the sordid jealousies and bickerings of its inmates, and the fidelity to life with which their various repulsive characteristics are drawn. It is only too apparent that the child will soon succumb to the shock that her system has sustained. Her poor little body shows the marks of the brutal treatment to which she has been subjected; and all the pathos, not to say horror, of a child half-beaten to death, half-dying by her own act, are portrayed with the keenest appreciation for dramatic effect. Equally effective, however, are the supernatural elements in the climax, which is a triumph of spirituality and idealism in drama. In her dying moments, the child has a vision, in which her dead mother appears to her as an angel; she sees the Savior; and all the beauties of heaven are disclosed to her. She herself dreams that she is ascending to Christ; and, when the apparitions have faded away and we see the dead body of the poor, bruised child lying upon the pallet, we feel that, for her soul at least, her vision has become a reality. Wonderfully subtle and poetic are the touches, throughout the drama, by which the schoolmaster, *Gottwald*—young, faithful, tender, and self-sacrificing—becomes, in a way, symbolic of the Savior, a symbolism that, in the performance, should be heightened by the actor's make-up, which must resemble the Christ apparition in the 'Vision' scene.

"It is impossible in any written description to give an impression of the beauty of this play, either as an imaginative work of art or as an acting drama. In the performances, the mistake is usually made of having the apparitions in the 'Vision' scene walk upon the stage or come up through trap-doors and then pose or group themselves. The effect is immeasurably heightened when they are thrown, by the reflection of mirrors, directly upon the spot on which they are finally to stand.

"This 'Vision' scene gave Hauptmann an opportunity to demonstrate the value of the psychological effects in the drama. It enabled him to show the working of a child's soul—its secret longings, dreams, and motives. It was a daring experiment; but it was wholly successful."

ZOLA TO WRITE A NOVEL ON THE DREYFUS CASE.

TRUTH is again proved to be stranger than fiction, for it seems that Émile Zola has determined to write another novel of Parisian life and manners, based not on the imaginary experiences of a socialistic priest, but on the facts of the sensational Dreyfus case. M. Zola has been savagely assailed from many directions for his bold championship of Dreyfus and his emphatic declaration that the captain is innocent. He contem-

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plates a literary revenge. His intentions have not been disclosed to Parisian journals, but here is what he said "in confidence" to a representative of the St. Petersburg *Novosti*. The interviewer asked the realist whether, having idealized Paris in his latest book, he was not going to avail himself of the intensely dramatic Dreyfus situation to give a realistic picture of the politics and government of Paris. He answered as follows:

"Yes, as soon as I really became acquainted, thoroughly acquainted, with this case, I decided to make literary use of it. What passions we have in this extraordinary case, what material for studying human psychology, what a conflict of interests! To give it the form of a dialog—not for the stage, not to make money, not to exploit a scandal, not to entice the agitated crowds, but to create a work in which the whole matter should appear to be—as it is—a desperate struggle between justice and selfishness—seemed at first desirable; but I have abandoned that idea. There is nothing so appropriate, so adequate, so instructive, as the form of a historical romance in the present instance. Yes, I shall write a history of the entire case. I know the truth, and I assure you there is nothing more shocking and oppressive in the political annals. I had contemplated using the Panama scandals; but in them I find much petty rascality, dirt, and meanness. Here we are confronted by mighty and unusual factors. Here then figure rare beauty, an extraordinary crime, to say nothing about the treachery of the spy, which is not specially novel in international relations. And the characters of the chief personages, the central types whose like it is difficult to find! There is the innocent victim Dreyfus, the real criminal, the man who is working might and main to bring the truth to light. And what richer field is there for the imaginative historical delineator than that of a fierce encounter of right and wrong? There are as many enlisted on the side of justice as there are on the side of injustice. I do not share the general belief that the truth will speedily triumph; the interests opposed to it are too mighty and influential. In the end justice will be done, but it will cost much effort and trouble.

"Of course, I shall await the end of this drama. The story would not be complete without it. The most startling and revolting thing about the whole matter is the attitude of the press—the prostituted and riotous press. It has trampled human sentiment under foot, perverted every right feeling, and deliberately obscured and befogged everything that could have unraveled the mystery. What will Russia think about this Homeric injustice, about this terrible tragedy revealing so much rottenness in political and military life!"

Several of the younger writers and radicals are supporting Zola and repelling the assaults upon him. They insist that a novelist has as much right, and is as bound morally, to take a stand on great public questions as any other citizen. A Russian writer remarks that the Dreyfus novel will be a curious sequel to "Paris," rather inconsistent with the hopefulness and optimism and idealism of the apotheosis of the French capital.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

ONE OF GERARD DE NERVAL'S LETTERS.

THE interesting account of de Nerval's pathetic career, which appeared in our issue of January 8, taken from the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, contained also a letter written by the poet to Mme. de Sohns just before his second incarceration in an asylum. It is a letter not only worth reading, but, in the light of the poet's history, worth weeping over, even now, forty-three years after the writer went to his tragic death. It is a marvel of grace and tenderness:

"You must not give me, dear beneficent fay, the beautiful book that you promised for my Christmas. I have wished for it long—those beautiful volumes with gilt edges, that unique edition! But it will cost a great deal, and I have something better to propose to you—*a good deed*. You are trembling with joy, I feel it; you whose heart is seeking ever to do good. Ah well, my beautiful friend, here is something to keep you busy for the whole week! Rue Saint Jacques, number 7, the fifth story, a father and mother, seven little ones, sunk in frightful, hopeless misery—without work, without fire, without bread—without light. Two of the children are half dead with hunger. Chance, that leads me often haphazard, led me yesterday to that door. I gave them all that I possessed—my cloak and forty centimes. O misery! Then I told them that a great lady, a queen of seventeen years, would come to their kennel with her hands full of *louis d'or*, fine clothes, coverings, and bread for the children. They looked as if they thought me crazy—but no matter. I really believe that I promised them rubies and diamonds. And the poor people—they didn't understand it at all—but they began to laugh and weep.

"Ah, could you have seen it! Quick then—run, fly, with those large sweet eyes that seem those of an angel, haste to make good what your poor poet has promised in your name. Let the price of my Christmas gift (for I absolutely must have a part in it), go for this good work; or rather, return to D—— the 25 francs which the *chef d'œuvre*, that I shall never think of again, would cost; and I will run to the Temple, and buy from Father Verdureau a whole Santa Claus out of it for them, for the holidays.

"That will be fine, don't you think? You will be dazzled. I shall go to Béranger to make a collection. *Au revoir*, little queen, *à bientot*, at the garret of our poor. *Our* poor! I feel proud as I write that. Is there any one then anywhere in the world poorer than I am myself? Don't forget the number, on the fifth floor, second passage, the door on the left.

"Adieu, Mignon, dear Mignon, sweet Mignon, providence of the afflicted, *mignonne* Mignon, so sweet, so rare, so modest, and so *gentille*. Put on your robe with the long trail, and your high-heeled boots. I have promised them a princess, more powerful than the grandest crowned head on earth. They will wonder when they see your seventeen years, and your childlike smile. But I prattle—I prattle. Adieu, *Mignonne*—again adieu.

"Madame, pardon!

"To give these poor people bread, you understand, will not be enough. The thing is to give them poetry as well. That may be the idea of a fool, but it is *jolie*."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

NOTES.

MME. SEMBRICH is quoted in *The Musical Record* as saying that the old Italian music is the best training for the voice, especially in developing it for such music as Leoncavallo, Mascagni, or Wagner. She says: "It is such music as 'La Sonnambula,' 'Lucia,' 'Linda de Chamounix,' and 'Il Barbiere' that trains one to sing well. Learn that thoroughly and let the modern composers alone for a while. If there was anything needed to prove the truth of my theory, one would only have to look at Mme. Patti. She is over fifty now, and yet she sings remarkably, and she has her voice left still. Of what other women can the same thing be said? Look, too, at Lilli Lehmann, who began her career as a singer of the Italian music and is to-day another great example of what that training will do. It was not until she had learned thoroughly the Italian repertoire that she began to sing Wagner. She and Mme. Patti are two of the last great singers. No young ones are coming up to take their places, and the reason is that the old music which trained the voices best is no longer taught to-day."

TENNYSON has been criticized recently by W. W. Ward. It will be remembered that Tennyson said that he never put two "s's" together. Mr. Ward took the trouble to search the poems of the great master of musical verse to see if this was true; and it is not surprising that he should rush into print upon finding several apparent contradictions of the statement. Mr. Ward, in turn, is now corrected by W. T. Malleson, who writes to *The Spectator* that Mr. Ward should distinguish between the printed and the sounded or sibilant "s." Speaking of the sibilant or hissing "s," Mr. Malleson says: "The instances of two 's's' together which Mr. Ward marshals from Tennyson's poems are not of this kind. In 'his song,' 'his sons,' 'his side,' in 'as she' and 'was seen,' the first 's' has the 'z' sound, and phonetically the words would be written 'hiz song,' 'az she,' 'waz seen.' In the Highlands, indeed, the 's' in 'was' is sibilant, and Mr. Black and others, to mark this, write the word 'wass.' Were this the English pronunciation, Tennyson in accord with his rule, or rather his perfect ear, would certainly not have written—

"She in her poor attire wass seen;"

but by 'was seen,' as we pronounce the words, the rule is not violated. To take another of Mr. Ward's examples—

"No more by thee my steps *sh*all be."

Here the 'sh' has not the hissing, but the hushing, sound;—make it, indeed, sibilant; read it, 'my steps s'all be,' and one is reminded of the grinding of scissors! One quotation of Mr. Ward's remains which seems to prove (or test) the rule rather sharply—

"She seemed a part of joyous *s*pring;"

but let any one read this line aloud, and he will find that he blends the two 's's' into one. Tennyson's verse is not for the eye but the ear."

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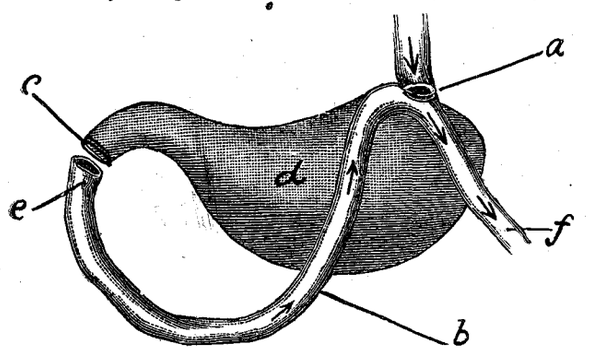
SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

LIVING WITHOUT A STOMACH.

THE opinions of physiologists regarding the functions of the stomach have been somewhat altered by the success of a recent rather sensational surgical operation in which the entire stomach of the patient was removed. The subject, a Swiss woman, is still alive and well, and naturally her condition has excited wide interest. A brief note of the operation has already appeared in these columns, but we are now enabled to lay before our readers more particulars from an accurate account of the case contributed by the operator, Dr. Carl Schlatter, of Zurich, Switzerland, to *The Medical Record* (New York, December 25). In an introductory note, Dr. E. C. Wendt, of New York, says of the case, which he terms "remarkable and unique":



STOMACH.

Preparatory Steps for Operation. *a*, Œsophageal cut; *b*, duodenum; *c*, duodenal slit; *d*, stomach; *e*, slit closed by suture; *f*, jejunum.

"At the date of the present writing, December 9, 1897, over three months since the operation of total ablation of the stomach, the woman is still under observation at the county hospital; but she is to all intents and purposes a well woman, and does her full share of the daily work of the ward. On the date of my first visit I found her in a very cheerful frame of mind, and quite loquacious. She is already beginning to realize the interest and importance attaching to her case, as she has had medical visitors from many quarters of the globe. The lay press of all Europe has got wind of this extraordinary instance of a 'live woman without a stomach.' . . . . . .

"On my several examinations of the patient I was particularly struck by her ruddy complexion, fair general appearance, clean, moist tongue, absence of all *fœtor ex ore*, moderately full and vigorous pulse, and general alacrity. She informed me that her appetite was good, but that she was never allowed to feel really hungry. She relished her meals and her taste was unimpaired. The bowels acted naturally once in twenty-four hours. Her sleep was normal. She complained of no pain.

"In a word, save for some degree of emaciation, a noticeably dry skin, and her abdominal cicatrix, the woman at present offers no apparent departure from ordinary average health. How long can she survive the non-existence of gastric digestion? Who can tell? Clinical observation sometimes rudely disturbs our most cherished school-taught physiological dogmas."

Dr. Wendt tells us that altho several surgeons have recently reported cases of total removal of the stomach, these operators have always allowed some small part to remain, so that this is the first real case of the kind on record. Animals have survived complete destruction of the stomach, however, so that there was reason to suppose that it might not be fatal to a human being.

Dr. Schlatter's technical account of the case can not, of course, be reproduced here at length. The patient, Anna Landis, was a sufferer from a tumor that involved nearly the whole stomach. After the removal of the organ, the œsophagus was joined directly to the intestine (see illustration) so that food would pass into it as before. Nine days after the operation the patient was eating milk, eggs, meat, gruel, tea, and wine, and she steadily improved. An interesting feature was the occurrence of vomiting, which most physiologists have regarded as proceeding only from action of the stomach. Says Dr. Schlatter:

"How can a person vomit without a stomach? No matter what theoretical physiological notions we may have imbibed from lectures and text-books, the woman under observation had repeated attacks of ordinary nausea, retching, and vomiting. We must needs conclude, therefore, that the rôle of the stomach (*i.e.*, its antiperistaltic efficacy) in this direction has been very much overrated. . . . . .

"In view of the fact that the patient ejected as much as thirty ounces at one time, it seems reasonable to suppose that the remaining portion of the duodenum may have already begun to show distention sufficient to produce a sort of compensatory receptacle for food —perhaps nature's attempt in the direction of the new formation of a stomach.

"In endeavoring to explain vomiting without a stomach, we should remember that the act itself is far from being a simple process. It is due to nervous action on a complex motor apparatus, consisting of pharynx, œsophagus, stomach, diaphragm, and abdominal muscles."

Dr. Wendt draws the following conclusions from the results of Dr. Schlatter's interesting operation:

"1. The human stomach is not a vital organ.

"2. The digestive capacity of the human stomach has been considerably overrated.

"3. The fluids and solids constituting an ordinary mixed diet are capable of complete digestion and assimilation without the aid of the human stomach.

"4. A gain in the weight of the body may take place in spite of the total absence of gastric activity.

"5. Typical vomiting may occur without a stomach.

"6. The general health of a person need not immediately deteriorate on account of removal of the stomach.

"7. The most important office of the human stomach is to act as a reservoir for the reception, preliminary preparation, and propulsion of food and fluids. It also fulfils a useful purpose in regulating the temperature of swallowed solids and liquids.

"8. The chemical functions of the human stomach may be completely and satisfactorily performed by the other divisions of the alimentary canal."

In commenting on the case, *The Medical Record* speaks editorially as follows:

"It is rather an unexpected slight to what has always been considered one of the essential organs of the body, and one governing all others with undisputed sway and unquestioned autocracy, to imagine that it may not be of much use after all. Its fabled quarrel with the other parts of the body, in the story of Æsop, would appear in the present light as scarcely more than the mythical hypothesis of a wild and unreasonable fabrication. Whatever we may venture *pro* or *con* on the question at issue, the fact appears to be proven that the human subject can live and be reasonably active for months at a time without any stomach whatever, and obtain all the necessary digestion and nourishment from what remains of the intestinal tract. Is it possible that the latter may have a new set of functions not yet understood, or has the importance of stomach digestion been misapprehended and overrated? In any event we are now brought face to face with a very curious demonstration, which destroys the validity of many preconceived opinions and in a great measure nullifies the results of many previous experiments.

"In the matter of a brilliant achievement the operation takes first rank, and the daring and brilliant surgeon will receive the well-deserved congratulations of his peers throughout the world. He has opened the first chapter in a new history of surgical triumphs."

A New Half-Breed: the Zebroid.—"The mule," says *Cosmos* (December 18), "partakes of the qualities of the ass and the horse. The zebra having now been domesticated, it has been asked whether we can not obtain from it an analogous half-breed. The Baron de Parana has obtained one and calls it the 'zebroid.' The young animal is now six months old; it is a male of a bay

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color with stripes similar to those of the zebra. These stripes are well marked on the neck, the head, and the legs; those of the body are not visible, because of the thick winter coat. The mane is black and resembles that of the zebra; the tail looks like a mule's, but has longer hair. The ears are small with rounded points like the zebra's. The haunch is well formed, rounded, and quite large; the chest is long and high, which makes the animal hold its head high and consequently gives it a good carriage. The eyes are large and full of feeling; the nostrils large; the lips small and much like those of Arab horses (the mare, the mother of this zebroid, was one-quarter Arab); the head is small; the legs muscular, but delicate, showing that he will be very agile; the hoofs small, black, and very hard. He is very lively, but very gentle, and loves to be caressed. He eats very well, not only in the stall, but in pasture." These facts, we are told, are from a communication made by the breeder to the National Acclimation Society, which is shortly to be presented with a set of photographs of the new creature.—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

GROWING USE OF THE ALTERNATING ELECTRIC CURRENT.

THE most conspicuous modern tendency in electrical practise, according to *The Electrical World* (January 1), is the substitution of the alternating for the direct electric current. It makes this a text for a brief historical review of the dynamo:

"When the first dynamos were built it was found necessary to introduce a device for straightening the pulses of current that flowed from their armatures first in one way and then in the other, into an orderly current, something like that given by Volta's pile or Galvani's 'crown of cups.' The commutator was invented, elaborated, and, after much travail, perfected so far as such a thing could be perfected. Electricians viewed the chaotic currents emanating from the whirling wire with disfavor. They would not energize an electromagnet, they would not work a telegraph, so the commutator was called into being to rectify them. Later, when motors had progressed beyond the stage of scientific curiosities, commutators were used upon them to again distribute the straightened current into its elements."

Now, however, we are going back to first principles, according to the writer. To quote another paragraph:

"To-day the commutator is sinking slowly into comparative obscurity. A new race of dynamo mechanisms has grown up commutatorless, of the original simplicity of the sine wave current. It is a return to first principles, a going back to the current conditions that puzzled and appalled the early experimenters and caused them to devise the rectifying sliding-contact machine that has given such a world of trouble ever since. Who is there to-day who shall say that the direct current is the normal variety or deny the alternating its claim at least to priority of origin? At best turning it into direct current was a makeshift resorted to in the early days, because it was not then known how to utilize it in its original simplicity. Happily we are now learning how, and the obvious and manifold advantages of the alternating current are beginning to be appreciated.

"It is in this direction that one of the most evident tendencies of present progress is directed. The great lighting-stations are changing over from the complex methods formerly in vogue, to the simple and satisfactory polyphase system of generation and supply. Long-distance power transmission is a commercial possibility only for the alternating current. The last stronghold of the direct current, the railway, is now being invaded by its rival, and before many more years shall have passed the applications of direct current will be restricted to those uses for which it alone is fit. Even the one advantage of the direct current, long contended for, the possibility of its use in connection with accumulators, is nullified by the rotatory converter.

"There is no other tendency so conspicuous as this. The substitution of alternating for direct-current methods is becoming more and more widespread. The great installations now under construction are practically all of the alternating type. In railway work the day can not be far distant when the commutator motor will be regarded only as an evil memory. Even in telegraphy and telephony the alternating current is coming into use. Such, to-day, seems the most marked direction of advance in the electrical field, and no doubt ensuing years will see the practical disappearance of much of the direct-current apparatus now used for many purposes."

CUD-CHEWING HUMAN BEINGS.

CERTAIN human beings ruminate or chew the cud like cattle. This curious condition or habit is of course abnormal and is called by physicians "merycism." An article on the subject has been published by M. Nattan-Larrier, a French authority, in the *Gazette des Hôpitaux*, Paris. We make the following extracts from a brief notice in *The British Medical Journal* (December 18):

"There is no certain evidence as to the influence of sex; certain authorities make out that merycism is most prevalent in the male, but since that opinion has been repeatedly copied in text-books, Ludwig and several other observers have recorded numerous cases where it occurred in women. According to five independent reports, merycism may be hereditary. Bouchard, of Ghent, has published the clinical history of a ruminating family. Out of ten living members eight ruminated—namely, two brothers and an aunt, the grandfather and four grandchildren. Close scrutiny into individual cases, however, tends to show that merycism may represent an extreme form of eructation, or else be evidence of mental disease. It may be voluntary or involuntary, the latter type often representing the first stage of what becomes the former. No special change in the chemistry of the saliva and gastric juice has been proved to be associated with merycism, but human ruminants are often dyspeptics with sensory-motor phenomena. Involuntary merycism, at least in its earlier stages, is specially prevalent among dyspeptics troubled with neuroses. Voluntary rumination, as a bad habit, is a practise observed most frequently among idiots, lunatics, and 'degenerates,' a true intellectual perversion, in fact, where a man wishes to be like a cow. Yet voluntary rumination, on the other hand, may be the result of imitation in fairly sane subjects; on that account it is relatively common among children. The mechanism of rumination is the same in man as in animals that naturally ruminate. No malformation or lesion of the stomach or œsophagus has been detected in any case. . . . In children the condition is often traceable to imitation. M. Nattan-Larrier holds that the ruminating child must not be spoiled by the sparing of discipline, but believes that suggestion might prove a quicker and more thorough therapeutic agent. It is certain that it would be preferred by the patient. When distinct mental disease is present attempts at cure are seldom successful, and some idiots are very clever at bringing up their food the moment they are no longer watched; they can retain it for hours till they desire its return to the mouth."

MORALITY IN ANIMALS.

THAT moral feeling exists in animals, and even that its basis is found in the very lowest organisms, is maintained in an unsigned leading article in *Our Animal Friends* (January). The writer regards such feeling as a direct result of the development of energy due to the struggle of life, and he looks upon hunger as the first manifestations of the "force which in its nature tends to virtue and without which virtue could not exist." He says:

"It is not necessary to our purpose to dwell on the struggle of the individual for the food by which it is sustained, further than to note that, without some other necessity than that of nutrition, there could be no moral relation between individuals. But even in the lowest life of the protoplasmic cell, side by side with the necessity of nutrition, we find another imperious force in the necessity of reproduction. The rudimentary creature draws in food enough for its own subsistence through the surrounding tissue within which it is contained; by the abundance of nutrition it enlarges itself; and, strange to say, by that very act it increases its own hunger. For its bulk increases as the cube of its diameter, while the surface increases only as the square; and if the diameter of this living stomach is doubled, the demand for sus-

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tenance is multiplied eightfold, while the mouth by which it is to be supplied is increased only fourfold. At that rate the creature must speedily die of hunger simply because it has consumed more food than enough! How, then, does nature provide for this contingency? Very simply. The cell which can no longer sustain itself divides into two, and so saves itself by giving life to another. Thus the *self-regarding* instinct of nutrition leads onward to what we might call the *other-producing* instinct of reproduction; and still we have here no moral element, because the separated cells which were once one have no longer any relation to each other, and are therefore destitute of that *other-regarding* principle which is essential to morality.

"It is only in the rudimentary protoplasmic cell, however, that we find this other-producing necessity apart from the other-regarding principle in which the foundation of morals is laid. The moment we examine any living creature, however little advanced above the rudimentary form of the individual cell, we find ourselves in the presence of the mystery of *sex*. How that mystery begins we know not. What we do know is that it prevails alike in the vegetable and in the animal kingdom, and we also know that its essential characteristic consists in what Haeckel calls 'the elective affinity of two different cells' as the condition of reproduction. Here, then, we have the physical basis of something different from the purely selfish struggle for life; in the relation of sex we have not only the rudiment of an other-regarding principle, but the beginning of a *struggle for the life of others*, purely instinctive, doubtless, at first, but capable of development into the highest characteristics of morality."

The altruism of the mother is of course not developed at once. In the lower animals it is quite absent. To quote again:

"Mr. Drummond says that 'it is doubtful whether in the invertebrate half of nature it exists at all; if it does, it is very rare; in the vertebrates it is met with only exceptionally till we reach the two higher classes'; and even there we first find it in a rudimentary form, in the preparation of the nest and in the care for eggs. In the lower forms of nature, when the eggs are laid, often with an appearance of extreme solicitude for their safety and an almost prophetic outlook for their future sustenance, the mother's work is done, and so she leaves them. Only a step higher brings us to the mother brooding on her nest and caring for her young more devotedly than for herself, until they need her care no longer. It is at this point, too, that we begin to find the function of fatherhood approaching moral conditions, in the male bird, joining in the preparation of the nest, nourishing his mate, relieving her from time to time in her function of brooding over the eggs, and at last uniting with her in the joyous care of the young ones."

So far the author has followed pretty closely the line of thought of the late Henry Drummond. But Mr. Drummond, he thinks, makes too little of the moral influence of association between the sexes in higher animals. He says of this influence:

"In some species, perhaps in many, it is so strong that it lasts for life, or, in other words, monogamy prevails, and so the beginnings of a true family relation are laid, with all the subtle moral influences which that relation implies, and includes and fosters. Mr. Darwin has truly said that, in the course of evolution, 'those communities which included the greatest number of the most sympathetic members would flourish best.'"

Prince Kropotkin is here called in as an additional witness. He is quoted as follows:

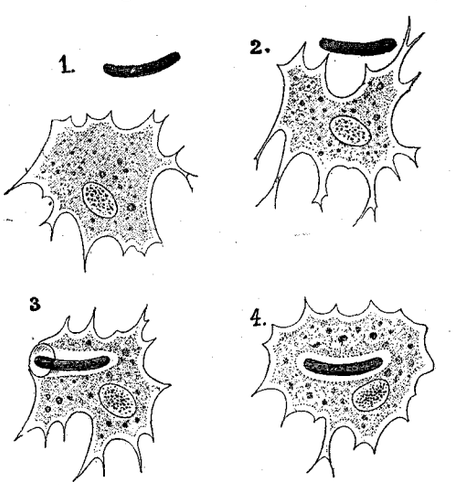
"As soon as we study animals—not in laboratories and museums only, but in the forest and the prairie, in the steppes and the mountains—we at once perceive that tho there is an immense amount of warfare and extermination going on amidst various species, and especially amidst various classes of animals, there is, at the same time, as much, or perhaps more, of mutual support, mutual aid, and mutual defense, amidst animals belonging to the same species or, at least, to the same society. Sociability is as much a law of nature as mutual struggle. . . . .If the numberless facts which can be brought forward to support this view are taken into account, we may safely say that mutual aid is as much a law of animal life as mutual struggle; but that, as a factor of evolution, it most probably has a far greater importance, inasmuch as it favors the development of such habits and character as insure the maintenance and further development of the species, together with the greatest amount of welfare and enjoyment of life for the individual, with the least waste of energy."

The writer concludes as follows:

"At this point, in our opinion, Mr. Drummond's vision is obscure. He does not see the full significance of the facts. He does indeed admit and assert that the other-regarding principle, which he calls Altruism, exists in the lower animals; he says: 'At what precise stage of the Ascent, in association with what class of animals, Otherism began to shade into Altruism in the ethical sense, is immaterial. Whether the Altruism in the early stages is real or apparent, profound or superficial, voluntary or automatic, does not concern us. *What concerns us is that the Altruism is there;* that the day came when, even tho a rudiment, it was a reality; above all that the arrangements for introducing and perfecting it were realities.' That suffices for our own contention, which is this: that the foundations of human morality are laid in the very nature of the animal life which we share with all our humble fellow creatures, and consequently, that the highest ethical attainments and aspirations of man as a social being are only developments of a principle which exists and operates, often in a most wonderful and admirable way, in them as well as in mankind."

THE CONFLICT OF DISEASE.

WE have long been accustomed to speak of disease as a battle; we say that the sufferer is "making a splendid uphill fight," and that he has "subdued" the disease or that the disease has "vanquished" him. It is only recently, however, that physicians have had grounds for the belief that the patient is



PHAGOCYTES AND BACTERIA.

1, 2. The phagocyte or leucocyte approaches a bacterium and extends its pseudopods toward it to envelop it. 3. The bacterium, surrounded by the pseudopods, penetrates into the protoplasm of the leucocyte, or is *envacuolated*. 4. The bacterium is digested by the phagocyte.

rather the battle-field than an active contestant. The real battle is fought out within him between the attacking germs armed with their deadly poisons or "toxins," and the white blood-cells, "leucocytes" or "phagocytes," which strive to overcome them and thus save his life. In an article on "The Blood" in *La Monde Moderne*, Paris, November, Dr. J. Laumonier describes the process graphically. He says:

"Besides the red globules there are in the blood white globules or leucocytes. These are colorless cellules without membrane, mobile, and of changing form, whose constituent matter, or protoplasm, is granular and contractile. They are much less numerous than the red globules, and there is only one of them to every 350 or 400 of the red globules; but to make up for this they are found elsewhere than in the blood, notably in the conjunctival tissue, the glands, the lymph, etc. This ubiquity of the leucocytes is due to their mobility, to the plasticity of their protoplasm, which enables them to slip into the smallest intercellular spaces

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and thus to migrate from tissue to tissue. This journeying about is called 'diapedesis.'

"We may ask, 'What is this diapedesis for?' Like all cellules the leucocytes are very sensitive to the action, even at a distance, of certain reagents, certain chemical substances, which, for this reason, attract or repel them. Among the substances that attract the leucocytes most energetically are the 'toxins' or substances secreted within our organism by pathogenic microbes such as the charbon bacillus or the staphylococcus of pus. When such microbes exist in any part, and their presence is revealed by the presence of toxins carried by the blood, the leucocytes move toward the contaminated point and proceed to devour, by enveloping them in their protoplasm, the bacteria that they meet (see figure). For this reason the leucocytes are called also 'phagocytes' or devouring cells. But all the leucocytes do not succeed in thus devouring their prey; a certain number die, poisoned by the microbian toxins, and their accumulated bodies form pus. When the leucocytes finally succeed in destroying the pathogenic bacteria, the contagious or virulent malady is stayed, the invalid is cured; when, on the contrary, the leucocytes are vanquished by the number of their adversaries or the virulence of their secretions, the malady spreads and the patient is in peril of death. This process of 'phagocytosis,' which was discovered only a short time ago, is one of the most curious processes of defense in our organism, and the vaccinations so widely employed in our day have for their object, by the previous attenuation of the inoculated virus, to habituate the phagocytes progressively to the poisons against which they would not be able to struggle were they introduced all at once and with no opportunity for adaptation."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

IS THE SPEED OF THE SCREW-PROPELLER REACHING A LIMIT?

THE recent phenomenal speeds attained by small boats driven by propellers, especially when, as in the case of the *Turbinia*, rotary engines are used, has led some to expect still more wonderful results in the future. But there is a limit to all things, and in the case of the propeller recent experiment seems to show that we are already near it and that it will be caused by a phenomenon named "cavitation," which is the formation of hollow spaces in the water behind the swiftly moving propeller-blades. The subject is discussed in a paper read by Sydney W. Barnaby before the recent Congress of Naval Architects in London and printed in *The Journal of the American Society of Naval Engineers* (November), from which we quote the following extracts. Says Mr. Barnaby:

"In a paper upon torpedo-boat destroyers, read before the Institution of Civil Engineers in 1895 by Mr. Thornycroft and myself, we gave some particulars of the screw trials of the *Daring*, and described briefly the reasons which led us to conclude that a new phenomenon was manifesting itself. This phenomenon seemingly pointed to the probability that the speed of vessels was approaching a stage at which propulsion by screws would become less efficient, and we said that it appeared inevitable that reduced efficiency must be submitted to as the speed of vessels increased.

"If a cavity be formed in any manner in the interior of a mass of water it will tend to become filled with water vapor and with any air which might be in solution, since ebullition takes place at ordinary temperatures in a vacuum. We believed that at the speed at which the screws of the *Daring* began to give trouble such cavities were being formed, and were the source of the great waste of power and of other difficulties which were experienced.

"This view met with not a little incredulity at the time, but I believe it to have been perfectly correct. The trials of the *Turbinia* and the experiments made by Mr. Charles Parsons, . . . afford very strong, if not complete, confirmation of our contention."

After a discussion of the experimental facts that seem to him to uphold his views, Mr. Barnaby thus describes exactly what he believes takes place with a very rapidly revolving screw-propeller:

"A screw propels by putting water in motion sternward. It effects its object partly by pushing the water with the after face of the blades, and partly by pulling it with the forward face. I will ask you to imagine that we have replaced the screw of a ship by a disk of rather less diameter than the screw, and that, instead of revolving the screw-shaft, we push the shaft and disk sternward at such a speed that the momentum of the water moved by the disk is equal to the sternward momentum of the water put in motion by the screw. The propelling effect would be the same as that of the screw, and so far as the action between the forward face of the screw-blades and the contiguous water is concerned, which is what I wish to illustrate, the action of the disk affords a sufficiently close analogy. As the disk moves sternward, it puts water in motion not only astern of it, but also ahead of it. There being no air between the water and the front face of the disk, a pull can be exerted upon the water, which is forced to follow the disk in the same manner that water is forced to follow the plunger of a pump.

"But the pull which can be thus exerted by the disk is limited. At a little depth beneath the surface of the water, if the tension exceeds 15 pounds per square inch (one atmosphere), the surfaces of the disk and adjacent water are torn asunder, and a cavity is formed between them."

Mr. Barnaby believes that this effect is certainly making swift propellers less efficient than they ought theoretically to be. He says in closing:

"That cavitation will be the cause of trouble in the future is, I think, certain. Already it is becoming difficult to obtain the requisite area in screws of destroyers without either resorting to an abnormal width of blade, or to a larger diameter and pitch ratio than would otherwise have been preferable. The one expedient gives undue surface friction, and the other necessitates a reduction in the rate of revolution, and therefore a heavier engine. The fact that the designer of the *Turbinia* has been forced, doubtless against his will, to employ nine screws in order to avoid cavitation, is an evidence of its influence."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

THE OMNIPRESENT GERM.—"A new and startling discovery has recently been made that threatens the lives of school children, authors, and printers," says *Modern Medicine*. "Leading bacteriologists of Berlin and Leipsic have discovered by investigations that our ordinary inks 'literally teem with bacilli of a dangerous character, the bacteria taken therefrom sufficing to kill mice and rabbits inoculated therewith in the space of from one to three days.' The germ seems to be no respecter of persons or things."

"A GERMAN chemist," says *Merck's Report*, "has prepared a fluid that has the power, when injected into the tissue of a plant near its roots, of anesthetizing the plant. The plant does not die, but stops growing, maintaining its fresh, green appearence, tho its vitality is apparently suspended. It is also independent of the changes in temperature, the most delicate hothouse plants continuing to bloom in the open. The composition of the fluid is shrouded in the greatest secrecy, but it is said to have a pungent odor and to be colorless."

"PRACTICALLY all the results of experiments," says *The Electrical World*, December 18, "have so far pointed to the truth of the hypothesis that Roentgen rays differ from ordinary light rays and other manifestations of radiant energy only in the item of wave-length. The supposition that they are radiations of almost inconceivable frequency of vibration, and having a wave-length many times less than that of violet light, is a competent explanation of most of the phenomena due to them, leaving their remarkable action in discharging electrified bodies and certain other as yet dimly comprehended actions for further explanation."

"IT is curious to reflect," says *The Electrical Engineer*, London, "that many of our so-called modern inventions have been invented long before and forgotten, but that this is so many authorities can vouch. We are so constantly hearing of them that they pass almost unnoticed, and our revelry in the newness of them remains undisturbed. An author writing on this subject in an evening contemporary a short time ago referred to an early discovery of the electric telegraph, which may have escaped the notice of many of our readers. Arthur Young was on a visit to Mr. Lomond, at Paris, in October, 1787, when he saw what he describes as something very remarkable. He says: 'You write two or three words—Mr. Lomond takes them with him to his room and turns a machine which is enclosed in a cylindrical case. A wire connects it with a similar cylinder and electrometer in a distant apartment. His wife stationed there, by remarking the corresponding motions of a ball, writes down the words they indicate. Length of wire makes no difference in the effect.' Mr. Young does not go into details, probably for the very reason that they were beyond him, but it is somewhat remarkable that, considering how much we know of Mr. Lomond as a savant of his time, we have no other record of his discovery. The Revolution was responsible for a good many things, and perhaps the forgetfulness of this invention must be attributed to the same disturbing element."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE ARMENIAN PEOPLE AND CHURCH.

IT is not as well known as it might be how entirely the continued existence of the Armenian people depends upon the continuance of the Armenian Church. If the Armenian Church should cease to exist, the Armenians, as a separate people, would cease to exist also. This, at least, is the explanation made by a native Armenian, Mr. Minas Tcheraz, professor at King's College, London, in *Le Museon* (Paris, October). The professor also describes at some detail what the Armenian Church is and in what respects it differs from other Christian churches. After pointing out the excellence of the Armenian version of the Bible, which has been called by competent critics "the queen of all versions," the admirable liturgy of that church, the fine poetical quality and spirituality of its hymns, he proceeds thus:

"It is Christianity, become the national church, which has preserved the Armenian nationality. Without that, the Armenians would have been absorbed in Mazdeism, or Zoroastrianism, and later on in Islamism, for, in that nest of religions which is called the Orient, it is religion which produces nationality, and the various peoples are only religious communities. This is why the Armenians, especially since they have lost their political independence, are displeased by attempts to detach the faithful from their church. Surrounded at the present time by orthodoxy, Catholic and Protestant, each of which wishes to draw within its fold this martyr church, they think it their duty to preserve strictly the *status quo*, because they would be unable to satisfy the three churches at once, and because their church is the last asylum of their nationality. They possess a national church, just as they possess a national language and literature and alphabet, a national era and history, a national music and architecture, and they do not wish to sacrifice all these to the national characteristics of more numerous peoples. For them number does not constitute merit and human civilization owes more to microscopic Greece than to colossal China. They have a high idea of their mission in Asia, and M. Felix Neue did not in the least exaggerate when he wrote these lines: 'By a double phenomenon which is rare in history, the Armenian people, strong by an admirable fidelity to their character and to their faith, have survived wars and revolutions which have decimated them: they possess in their literary and liturgical idiom a sign of their vitality and a pledge of their perpetuity. It is not difficult to believe that they will be called on some day to take part in the regeneration of Asia.'

"The foreign missionaries who find it convenient to preach Christianity to the faithful of a church almost contemporaneous with Christ, should not forget that their first duty is not to weaken in any respect the position of a church which is carrying on a daily warfare with the powerful religion of Islam. Blessed be the church which will undertake to propagate among the Christians of Armenia, not this or that form of Christianity, but that instruction and that education which render a people capable of reconciling respect for the past with the demands of the spirit of the age. From this point of view the American College at Constantinople does better service than those who lose their time in preaching Puritan simplicity to the brilliant imagination of our Oriental people.

"The Armenian Church belongs to the Church of the Orient and its rites do not differ much from those of the Greek Church; but it is completely autonomous and is governed by its own deacons, priests, and bishops, whose sacerdotal vestments are like those of the Greeks and Latins. It has a special hagiography, which covers the entire ecclesiastical year. It has a special ritual, a special missal, a special breviary, a special hymnal. It admits seven sacraments, but administers extreme unction to ecclesiastics only. It recognizes neither penance nor indulgences, and administers the communion with unleavened bread and wine without water. It celebrates Easter at the time fixed by Christians before the Council of Nice, and the Nativity and Epiphany on the 6th of January. It prescribes fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays and has a period of Lent and a series of saints which are all its own. It believes that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father. It is not Eutychian, because it professes explicitly the dogma of two natures, two wills, and two operations in Jesus Christ. It rejects the Council of Chalcedon, which declared the Patriarch of Constantinople and the Bishop of Rome the heads of the Christian Church. This is not a question of dogma, but a question of jurisdiction. Its conduct in this respect is guided by a feeling of personal preservation and is dictated by the necessities of its situation. As long as Armenia has no political independence, the Armenians can not, without danger, recognize the Council of Chalcedon. That is a rampart which separates the Armenians from the Greek or Russian Church. If they abandon it, nearly half of the Armenian nation, which lives under the Muscovite rule, would easily be absorbed in the Russian Church and nationality. The condition of servitude in which the Armenians are equally prevents them from introducing reforms into their church, the popular character of which allows them to accept without opposition improvements desired by the faithful.

"These are nearly all the differences which separate the Armenian Church from other churches. It has its reasons for maintaining these differences, and it hopes that other churches will be as tolerant of it as it is tolerant of its sisters.

"Another glory of the Armenian Church is its democratic spirit. It puts no obstacle in the way of the faithful reading and studying of the Bible. It employs in the mass the ceremony of cordial salutation, which the faithful render to each other 'with the kiss of holiness.'

"Its deacons and its priests, who are allowed to marry, live by the voluntary offerings of their flocks, and the high clergy, who alone are required to be celibate, receive a salary which is a very modest sum. No one has to pay a certain rent, as in some civilized churches, for a seat in church; every Christian is received there gratuitously, and rich and poor kneel side by side before the Eternal. The clergy, from the humblest deacon to the supreme Patriarch, are chosen by the free-will of the ecclesiastics and the laity. In the middle of the consecration of a candidate the bishop stops to ask the congregation if the candidate is worthy to receive orders. If a single individual declares that the candidate is not worthy, the consecration is suspended, and if the objector proves his assertion to the bishop, the candidate is set aside on the spot. It may be said in all conscience that the Armenian clergy are the servants and not the masters of the church.

"Such is the Armenian Church, venerable by its antiquity, proud of its orthodoxy, and glorious in the purple mantle of its martyrdom. Every stone of this sanctuary is cemented by the tears and the blood of its persecuted children. The sentinel of civilization and the advance guard of Christianity, the Armenian Church has bravely done its duty on the confines of the Oriental world. It has survived the attacks of Mazdeism and Islamism, as it has survived the attacks of Christians who do not understand liberty of conscience, and, in the midst of the sorrowful and painful crisis it is passing through at this moment, it sends a paternal salutation to all pious souls."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

SPIRITUALISM AND THE DEVIL.

A RECENT French writer on hypnotism and allied phenomena, in enumerating the various explanations of these phenomena in general vogue, found it necessary to include prominently what he called the orthodox Catholic theory that they were due to the direct agency of the devil. That this belief is a real one and must be reckoned with, is shown by the following passage from a recent sermon by Cardinal Vaughan in London. Said the cardinal:

"You are present, we will suppose, at some *séance*, where table-turning and table-rapping is going on. You ask a number of questions, the table replies. It raps three times for 'Yes' and twice for 'No,' and follows a regular code of signals. Now, either the whole thing is a delusion and a snare—a piece of trickery and humbug—and then, if it professes to be anything else, no one should encourage it—or else the answers are sensible, true, and according to fact, and then we can not attribute them to a lifeless object such as a table, which has no sense nor intelligence; but must put it down to spirits, to disembodied and invisible intelligences—in a word, to the agency of Satan."

Light, a London spiritualistic newspaper, which quotes this

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passage (December 18), does not object to the cardinal's ascription of the phenomena to the agency of "disembodied and invisible intelligences," but it regards him as taking a very illogical leap when he says that these must be diabolical. Not that there are no evil spirits at all:

"Let us assure him at once that we are not among the unbelievers [in the devil or devils]. Our difficulty is that we know not where to stop. We agree with the preacher that their name is Legion, and we should perhaps find some where he would never think of looking for them; for we should not confine our gaze to the spirit-world. But, on the other hand, we should not look in directions that seem familiar to him. His devils, he says, 'are made up of those rebel angels who were hurled out of heaven for refusing to obey God.' . . . . . .

"These rebels, he says, were 'hurled out of heaven,' we presume into hell, 'prepared for the devil and his angels,' we are told. And yet these 'malicious spirits' seem to be always here. 'They retain their spiritual form; they are still clever, intelligent, subtle, and by nature more than a match for the wisest and cleverest man'; moreover, 'they are ever seeking, by every means in their power, to gain an influence over us, to drag us into sin, and to plunge us finally into hell.' This is all very difficult. Have these fallen angels escaped from hell? If so, why does not God capture and confine them? It all seems amazingly chaotic. In truth, we are driven to ask: And what is our Heavenly Father doing all this while? Why does He permit only devils to get at us? Why does He expose us to such a horribly unfair conflict with unseen antagonists? . . . . . .

"The real truth is that beneath all this belief in the omnipresence and activity of the devil there is a latent unbelief in God. This priest sees the devil everywhere; we see God. We see, indeed, also a perilous array of evil forces and evil beings; but it is rank infidelity to say that they are dominant, that they press upon us to the exclusion of the forces of God. It may seem strange to this preacher to tell him that his unbelief in God shocks us; but it is true."

IS CALVINISM DEAD?

REV. DR. JOSEPH D. BURRELL, of Brooklyn, finds occasion for an argument on this subject in a recent statement made by a minister of Boston to the effect that the chief doctrines taught by the great Genevan are no longer held except in a formal way by any body of Christian believers. Dr. Burrell contends that, in all its essential principles, Calvinism is as much a living force now as at any time in the past. He says (*The Observer*, New York):

"It is true that ministers no longer preach the doctrine of the damnation of infants, if they ever did, which is doubtful. Nor does reprobation appear in modern sermons. But these are not essential Calvinism. Its constructive principle, the sovereign grace of God, is the presupposition of every sermon. 'Every man is a Calvinist when he prays.'

"The mystery of divine election, which is an unescapable corollary of the truth of God's sovereignty, can not be utterly obsolete while Paul's interpretation of Christianity has force. The endeavor to make all of Paul's words refer to national rather than individual election, is not considered successful by Sanday and Headlam, the latest commentators on Romans.

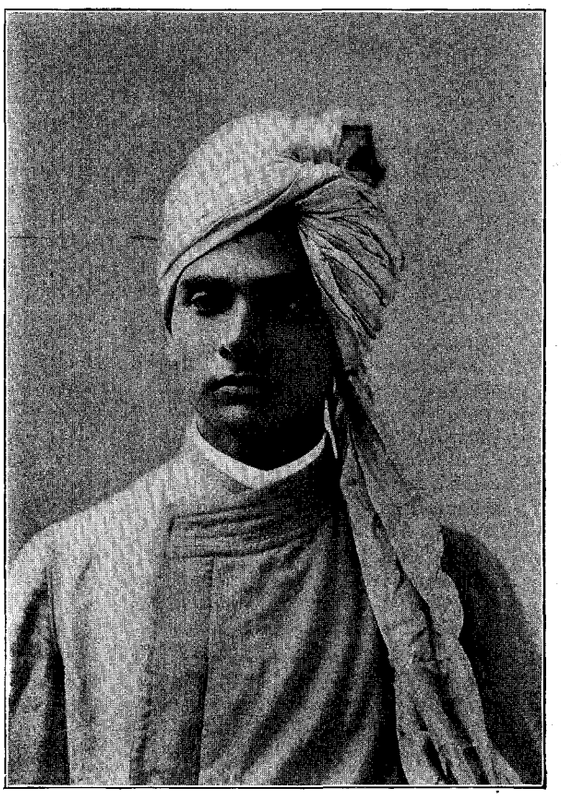
"Moreover, men will theologize to the end of time, and it is inconceivable how any one can construct a system of thought concerning the universe of which we are a part, without having as a foundation the truth of the sovereignty of God. President Roswell Hitchcock said: 'As long as there are thinking men there will be Calvinists.'

"This is strikingly corroborated by the modern philosophies. The cosmology of Huxley, Spencer, and John Fiske is nothing else than a Calvinistic interpretation of the world and its life in terms of science.

"No, Calvinism is not dead. Its constructive principle is worked into all our thought. It is only the form in which the truth has been stated in the past that needs readjustment. As President Patton said in his Pittsburg address, we want an interpretation of Calvinism in terms of the thought of to-day. That is a giant task which may well challenge and inspire some of our younger theologians. This broad-minded age welcomes everything new in thought which justifies itself; but its breadth surely will be found to cover also the old truths when they are set in new lights. There is something in Calvinism which is true and must be potent of good."

A HINDU'S VIEW OF CHRIST.

THE Swami Vivekananda has been succeeded in America as lecturer on Vedanta philosophy by the Swami Abhedananda. The latter's views concerning Christ are given at some length in the form of an interview in *The Sun* (New York, December 26). Incidentally, in maintaining the theory that Christ was a yogi, and that any one of us may become such as He was,



SWAMI ABHEDANANDA.

the Swami advances the thought that Abraham Lincoln also was, "to a considerable extent," a yogi. We quote from the interview:

"To understand Christ one must understand the Hindu conception of the soul and the universe, for Christ, altho a Jew by race, was in every fiber of His character a Hindu or Vedantist, and when the Christian looks at his Savior from the Hindu point of view he will not only get a more beautiful and sublime conception of Christ, but he will receive a much better opinion of himself and his fellow men. All that Christ did and said will become vastly more interesting to him, for he can himself confidently hope some day to become a Christ. The beauty of the Vedanta view of Christ is to be able to realize from experience that you and I and all of us will some day, on this very earth, clothed in blood and flesh, become Christ, for in every one of us is the pure and sublime soul that shows forth from Him on the Mount of Transfiguration. It needs only to be set free, to connect itself with this cosmic intelligence that stands behind and directs, evolves, and projects all these gross forms of matter that we see. In every one of us is a spark of this universal intelligent energy that is moving toward freedom. In Christ, in Buddha, and in many of our Hindu sages this cosmic energy was set free.

"What do we see in ourselves? First, the body, then behind it

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the mind, and behind that something that is conscious of them both. One can by effort separate all three of them in such a manner as to see their difference. The mind is tied to the body and the soul or self to the mind. The body dies, for all forms of matter are changing. The soul departs and takes the mind with it, and again they incarnate themselves. This goes on till some day the mind is able to renounce its passions and desires for the world, and the soul is free to direct it.

"This soul, or cosmic consciousness behind everything, is able to manifest itself in man more freely than in anything else, because of the more nearly perfect form of his mind and body. It is all along the line evolving toward him and through him to freedom. But not in the sense of changing its nature; it never does that. Hence the reason for the evolution of all animal life, and the Vedanta philosophy has been sustained or confirmed by the system of evolution. Every law and fact yet embodied in material science corroborates Vedanta.

"In a perfect man like Christ the mind stuff has been purified, culminated in the absolute renunciation of all earthly desires. He was able to connect his own soul with the cosmic soul or God, and he then exclaimed: 'I and my father are one.' When a Vedantist reaches that state he says: 'I am Brahman'; when a Mohammedan Sufi reaches that state he says: 'I am He.' Every perfect man realizes that he is a part of this universal intelligence which we call God or Brahman, and when he is able to make the connection with it through his purified mind he partakes of its omnipresence, omniscience, and omnipotence."

If a minute history of India for the last six thousand years could be written, we are assured that there would be descriptions of many miracles performed by the sages as remarkable as any credited to Christ. After laying some stress on the dissimilarity between the Old and New Testaments, a dissimilarity amounting to antagonism at many points, the Swami continues:

"Schopenhauer says the New Testament must be traced in a certain way to Indian sources, and the connection can be shown. Asoka, the Buddhist Emperor of India, some 260 B.C., sent Buddhist missionaries to every part of the known world, as stone tablets still testify. These missionaries preached in Palestine on down till near the birth of Christ. They left their impress upon the country.

"It is most probable that Jesus got His inspiration to begin with from this source. We know but little of Him until He was thirty years of age. Not till then did He realize His own true nature, else He would have been heard of sooner. . . . . .

"The New Testament is full of suggestions of practises by which Hindus have become sages. Witness the long meditations of Christ, His prayers, His long fasts, and those of His disciples. His sufferings and resignation at His death are conclusive testimony that He was a human being with a soul, as you and I are, but whose soul was laboring and succeeded in throwing off His mind and body and joining itself to that larger soul that is manifesting itself so grandly throughout the universe.

"In the last hours of His life he retired and prayed three times: 'If it be thy will, Father, remove this cup.' He saw with all the terrors His approaching ignominious death, to be inflicted in the most cruel manner. From His first prayer He could not summon the courage to face such a painful death. Why? Because He could not control His mind. He could not entirely withdraw the senses from the body. He could not detach His soul from His mind. In the second prayer he failed. But after the third prayer He became resigned. 'It is thy will.' He had now reached the state of mind known to Hindus as samahdi or superconsciousness, and there was no pain for Him on the cross. The nails driven into His hands and feet excited no more sensibility than they would if driven into so much wood. Painters have sometimes painted His face on the cross as showing great anguish, but the life and resignation of the Man deny this idea.

"It is well to explain briefly what is meant by the control of the senses as illustrated in the case of Christ. A friend of mine in London not long since went to see a Spaniard who claimed to have mastered the control of his senses. The Spaniard agreed to submit himself to a thorough scientific test. A doctor drove a needle between the nail and flesh of his thumb. The Spaniard did not wince, but went on laughing and talking to his friends. After some minutes he was requested to relax his mind. Of course when he did so he was seized with the most excruciating pain and blood began to run from the wound.

"In India one of our great sages, Chaitanga, went to another sage for instruction. 'Can you control your senses?' Chaitanga was asked. 'Test me,' he replied. The sage then put some powdered sugar upon Chaitanga's tongue. 'Hold it there for five minutes and I will believe you.' Chaitanga held it ten minutes and blew it off as dry as ever.

"But this is only the first step to the state of the mind of Christ reached when crucified. An incident in the life of one of our great sages in India is a parallel case. This sage, when walking along the road outside of a city, fell into the hands of a band of robbers. The robbers took the sage for a spy and chopped off his right arm with a sword. He quickly walked back toward the city, the blood pouring from the stub. He met a kind-hearted Brahmin on the way, who recognized him at a glance, and fell at his feet and bandaged the wound. But the sage was hardly aware that he had been wounded. His countenance glowed with deep calmness and tranquillity. He had not only withdrawn his senses, but he had shut his soul entirely in from his mind. Other sages have been chopped to pieces uttering the declaration all the while that they could not be killed."

What, then, is the significance of Christ's death? Christ foresaw, we are told, that His life and death would fix the minds of other men upon Him, and this act of concentration would help them to realize, as He realized, the divine nature within us all—our oneness with God. It is by such concentration of the mind that one is able to separate the soul from the mind and free it from the bondage of matter. Christ again and again enjoined upon His disciples prayer and meditation, and the fact that some of them saw Moses and the prophets in the scene of transfiguration shows that they also had learned to realize the divine in their natures. The interview closes as follows:

"All the great spiritual leaders and all the great geniuses have to a certain extent been yogis, and many of them without knowing the fact. From what I have heard, I believe your own great President Lincoln was to a considerable extent a yogi. He acted very much at times like an inspired man, and has been called so. He must have known how to commune with the cosmic spirit. And so there have been many others, and so many of us can become to-day with practise."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

The Independent gives a table of the benevolent contributions of the Methodist body from 1840 to 1890, showing that the annual average for each of the five decades has advanced from $108,290 to $2,304,900; and the average per member, from 13 cents to $1.04.

A SPEAKER at a recent missionary convention held in Exeter Hall, London, said that less than one seventh part of Her Majesty's 350,000,000 subjects are Christians; 240,000,000 are in the darkness of heathenism, and 60,000,000 in the partially lighted darkness of Mohammedanism.

THE Zionist journal, *Die Welt*, published at Vienna, announces that the scheme proposed at Basle to establish a bank to assist Jews to emigrate to Palestine is to be put into effect, and that the seat of the bank will be in London. The capital of $10,000,000 is to be divided into shares of five dollars each.

A CHRISTIAN Science Temple was dedicated in Chicago November 14. Its cost, with the land, was $108,000, and it is free from debt. At four successive meetings the same service was repeated, the audiences crowding the great auditorium. A dedicatory address was read at each service, written by the high priestess of the denomination, Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy. The substance of the address was that the existence of evil is impossible, for God made all things, and all that He has made is good. Therefore sin, sickness, disease, and death are imaginary, and Christian Science frees those who believe in it from the delusion that these things exist.

THE Russian peasants settled along the Volga in the province of Astrakhan are in a state of intense excitement over the appearance of "Antichrist" in their midst. In a village near the mouth of the Volga a girl gave birth to an illegitimate son. The child was one of exceeding beauty, and at the time of his birth there raged a terrible thunder-storm the like of which the oldest inhabitant had never before experienced. In some unaccountable way the report got abroad that the child was "Antichrist." His entrance into the world was accompanied with all the manifestations which the Russian peasants have been taught to look for at his coming. The girl had to fly with her child from the village, and has sought refuge somewhere on the pathless steppe.

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FOREIGN TOPICS.

THE RIOTS IN PRAGUE.

PRAGUE, the ancient capital of Bohemia, has been, as the cable has informed the world, the scene of serious riots. The Czechs, embittered by the partial success of the Germans, attacked the latter throughout the city, plundering stores and houses until the military forces cleared the streets. The consensus of opinion of Europe seems to be that the Czechs have as much right to agitate for national independence as any other race; but that they estrange many of their friends by lawless actions. Women were beaten in the streets for the crime of speaking German, over eight hundred houses were plundered, hospitals attacked, and even the baby hospital was not excepted —tho most of its inmates are Czechs—because it is an adjunct to the German university. The Slavonian races are much dissatisfied with the behavior of the Czechs, and disclaim all kinship. The *Novosti*, St. Petersburg, says:

"Moved by hatred against everything German, the mob did not attempt to repress its wild instincts. They did not act as mere rioters or mere plunderers; they became wild beasts. . . . In vain the mob was told that the baby hospital contained chiefly infants of their own race. Its staff was German, that was enough. . . . At a private hospital an invalid seeking to propitiate the mob, appeared at a window. A volley of stones was hurled at him. . . . This mob has long been the recipient of Austrian charity and civilization, and its deeds appear all the worse when we remember that it was led and managed by well-dressed agitators, who claim to be the representatives of Czech civilization."

Much harm was averted by the timely discovery of a bomb placed in a German theater. The Prussian papers are not astonished at these excesses, which only remind them of the barbarities committed upon the Prussian wounded in 1866. But, on the whole, there is an ardent desire in Germany to smooth over matters. The *Lokal Anzeiger*, Berlin, says:

"Altho the Czech races in the Dual Monarchy number only about 8,000,000, including the Bohemian Czechs, the Hannakes, Moravians, and Slovakians, they are numerically stronger than the Germans in Bohemia proper, and it can not but increase their national fanaticism that science, industry, trade, and capital are mostly in German hands. Moreover, Bohemia is surrounded by German territory, and is a favorable subject for Germanization. This must naturally rouse opposition in the Slavic race. In the battles of 1866 many Czechs lost their lives, which fact further increases Czech nervousness and suspicion. The Franco-German war aroused sympathies between the French and Czechs, which have been encouraged by the former. The House of Austria has often treated the Czechs with draconic rigor, confiscating their property, as in the rebellion of 1618–20, when many Bohemians emigrated to Brandenburg. The year 1848, with its revolutionary upheavals, could not but raise the hopes of the Czechs. They opposed a Slavic movement to the German Nationalist movement, and Prague was the scene of bloody riots.

"But the Czech movement is unable to preserve the sympathies of fair-minded persons, for their national aspirations are always subordinated to the desire for plunder. The Russians regard this branch of their family with undisguised contempt, and the Poles, too, look upon them as inferiors. Since the Old Czech party has lost all influence, and the Radical Young Czechs lead the movement, all moderation has been thrown aside."

The *National Zeitung* points out that the Czechs are continually emigrating to Germany and the German provinces of Austria. Czechs who are possessed of energy, admits the paper, are thereby lost to their nationality; but the absorption carried on in this way by the Germans is a peaceful and perfectly legitimate one, while the Czechs endeavor to strengthen the Slavic element by the wholesale annexation of districts inhabited by Germans.

The *Teplitzer Zeitung* thinks the most disquieting phase of the riots was that the rioters ignored utterly the imperial authority. It says:

"That excesses have taken place in Prague, that the mob plundered the Germans and the Jews—the latter without distinction of nationality—is not sufficiently unusual to cause comment. We are used to such things in Bohemia, altho it is going from bad to worse, and only Turkey reveals as great an insecurity of life and property."

The Hungarians, who have jealously guarded their independence since it has been obtained, and who talk occasionally of complete separation, nevertheless draw back a little now that internal troubles seriously threaten the strength of Austria. The *Pesti Hirlap*, Budapest, says:

"From Andrassy to Bauffy, influential Hungarian statesmen have always regarded the federalistic movement in Austria as dangerous. Badeni's experiments can not change this opinion, as the dissatisfaction of Hungary with the recent treatment of the Austrian Germans, and the pleasure at Badeni's fall, conclusively prove. Hungarian public opinion is now, as in 1867, that of Francis Deak and his brilliant group, who believed that dualism, founded upon German hegemony in Austria and Magyar hegemony in Hungary, must be preserved. To-day as ever Hungary hopes that the *Ausgleich* [arrangement of the mutual expenses of both countries] will be settled under the auspices of the Germans in Austria."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

A JUSTIFICATION OF OUR CUBAN POLICY.

AS a rule, the Cuban policy of the United States is looked upon abroad as inspired by jingoism, unjustifiable desire for aggrandizement, and a want of knowledge of the condition of the island. Occasionally, however, we run across an article in which our attitude is explained satisfactorily.

The *Boersen Zeitung*, Berlin, explains that we could not, from a strictly business point of view, preserve strict neutrality. Our industry, our trade, our shipping are too closely bound up with the Pearl of the Antilles. The paper says:

"Next to Spain and Great Britain, the United States is most interested in Cuban trade. Before the insurrection, the Americans used to send more than one thousand ships annually to Cuba. But more than 75 per cent. of the imports and 45 per cent. of the exports are sent *via* Havana, which is held by the Spaniards; and the insurgents, who wish to ruin the port by preventing its trade, and who have destroyed a large part of the plantations, have ruined also the trade of the Americans. At a time like the present, when it is difficult to open new markets, this must necessarily irritate the people of the United States. Moreover, many Americans are interested in the telegraph lines, railroads, and other industrial enterprises of the island. Hence all ranks of the Americans are anxious for its welfare. The island also commands the Bahama channel, the Straits of Florida, the Straits of Yucatan, and the Windward Passage, the Gulf of Mexico, the Caribbean Sea, and the whole communication between Europe, Mexico, and the Mississippi Valley. There is no reason to doubt that the American coasting trade would immensely benefit and that the trade with Cuba would increase enormously if the island belonged to the United States. The present high tariff in Cuba would certainly be abolished."

The paper does not think that Spanish military ardor and ability are as much at fault in Cuba as is generally supposed, for the following reasons:

"Traversed through its entire length by a chain of mountains, the island has on each slope large tracts full of caves. The climate being tropical, the entrance to these caves is generally hidden by lianas and vines. Often they contain good water, and are connected with each other. People living in the neighborhood of these caves can easily hide in them and continue to harass the troops. Nor is the task of the troops easier in the lowlands. Here the ground is swampy and covered with creepers, many of which are poisonous. The stagnant waters of the swamps often look like meadows, but they are a delusion and a snare, fit only

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to breed fever and mosquitoes. Paths lead through the thickets and the swamp, but only the natives know where they end. A few hours in the swamp is often sufficient to cause death, just as in German East Africa. The insurgents, when retreating, cover their trails and are safe. In the healthy parts of the island they never attempt to attack the Spaniards."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

HOW THE LIVES OF JAMESON AND HIS MEN WERE SAVED.

WE find in the *Nieuws van den Dag*, Amsterdam, a graphic description of one of the scenes resulting from the Jameson raid, when the stern old Boers, discussing calmly the fate of Jameson and his band, determined to execute the leaders of the gay band at daybreak. They were induced to change their mind only when their own leaders resorted to a parable in order to save the prisoners. We quote as follows:

"When Jameson and his fellow officers had been forced to surrender, a meeting of the Boer commanders took place in President Krüger's house. Some twenty were present, and the great majority, wild with indignation at the sudden inroad into their territory and the manifest attempt to rob them of their independence, were for shooting the British officers right off, if not the men under their command. This, they thought, would be a wholesome warning to others. President Krüger opposed this summary plan, and used all his eloquence, all his influence, to save the prisoners. For a long time his efforts were useless. At last General Joubert, one of the few who agreed with the President, had recourse to the old-time Boer method of convincing his hearers: he made use of a parable. It was then four o'clock in the morning, the President's opponents were still for execution, and the life of the filibusters hung by a thread. General Joubert, however, said: 'Friends, will you not listen to my voice once more? Suppose that close to my farm lives a bad neighbor who keepeth fierce hounds in his house, worrying my sheep exceedingly, also killing some. What, then, would you have me do? Should I kill the hounds to be free of this worry? Truly, my neighbor would say unto me: 'Thou hast killed my hounds, yet their value is greater than the value of the sheep. Pay thou me!' Is it not better that I should take the hounds, and, going unto my neighbor's house, say: 'These are thine, now pay thou me for the harm they have done to my flock?' There was silence and General Joubert continued: 'We have caught the pack. Is it not better to send them to the British Government with demands for reparation, lest the British send more hounds to worry us anew!' And once more the Puritan mode of arguing was successful. The council of war accepted the advice of their chiefs."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE FAR-EASTERN PRESS ON DEVELOPMENT IN THE FAR EAST.

LATEST advices are to the effect that the Son of Heaven has graciously consented to lease Kiao-Chau and adjacent territory to the ruler of the Teutons for a term of fifty years. A legal reason for the presence of the Germans has, therefore, been established. But that does not free Germany from the censure of the other nations. This censure is especially strong in Japan. Some people living in the far East nevertheless consider that Germany is justified in her course by the examples set by other nations. Some English papers published in China even welcome the Germans.

The *Ost-Asiatische Lloyd*, Shanghai, declares that Germany has simply done on a very moderate scale what England, France, and Japan have done before, and Holland, Spain, and Portugal had done before them, that is, taken care that her industrial produce shall not be shut out from the Asiatic markets altogether. *The Celestial Empire*, Shanghai, is not at all displeased. It says:

"We are not averse to seeing the occupation of Kiao-Chau by Germany lead to the development of the natural resources of the great province of Shantung. This has generally been regarded as a poor province, and, indeed, there is much poverty in some parts of it, notably the regions bordering the Yellow River, which have suffered from flood and famine. Under a good government, however, the province might well prove a source of great wealth. . . . The people, altho nicknamed *Kwa-tze*, *i.e.*, 'Bumptious,' by their countrymen of other provinces, are admitted to be much more straightforward and honorable than most Chinese, as is becoming in the fellow provincials of Confucius and Mencius, whose ancient homes and whose graves are found within the borders of this province. . . . It is in the nature of poetic justice that such an anti-foreign governor as Li Pinghêng should have been caught by this incident, and made the scapegoat of Imperial wrath. Had he been ever so friendly to foreign methods, he would hardly have been able in his time to have worked any such radical change as to have averted the attack and murder of the unfortunate priests, or prevented the landing of the Germans; but, after his recent tirade against foreign schools, it is but just he should be made to note the superiority of the learning he despises."

In Japan many people are deeply shocked at the proceeding of Germany, whose integrity was supposed to be too great to expect such a flagrant violation of international rights on her part. *The Japan Gazette*, Yokohama, thought it probable, however, that England, France, Germany, and Russia had come to some understanding in the matter, in view of the partitioning of Africa. But *The Japan Mail* defends England against such imputations, and declares that such robbery is entirely foreign to British character. "It is wearisome," adds Captain Brinkley,

"to have to deal with a proposition so strangely lacking in discrimination. Africa's case is in no sense parallel with China's. In Africa the various powers already possessed colonies which were gradually expanding, and their mutual expansions threatened to result in collisions."

The Japanese papers nearly all censure Germany's action as entirely unjust and unwarrantable. The *Yorodzu Chuo*, Tokyo, points to the annexation of Kiao-Chau as a "fine illustration of Christian principle." The *Jiji Shimpo* compares Germany to a big bully coming to the bedside of his debtor, sword in hand, to demand payment of a small debt. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* fears Germany represents pretty much the entire West in her lack of morality. The *Mainichi Shimbun* calls upon Japan to increase her navy to be ready for possible future complications. There are, however, some Japanese papers that find explanation, if not excuse, for the action of Emperor William. The *Nippon* (we summarize from translations in *The Mail*), thinks Japan has sometimes acted in a similar tho not quite so gross a manner. The *Chuo Shimbun* says:

"Four reasons combine to show that this is no sudden step on the part of Germany. She is anxious to cut into the trade monopolized by England. She is trying to provide in the Orient diversions which will occupy the attention of rival states in Europe. She is weary of waiting for her share in the action regarding the Liao-Tung peninsula, in which she assisted France and Russia. Finally, the Emperor of Germany believes in the 'Yellow Danger,' and he is anxious to strike the first blow. Japan certainly is threatened as well as China, and she must join hands with England to protect herself."

The Osaka *Asahi* thinks it quite natural that Germany, in view of her rapidly increasing commerce, should desire a basis of operations such as England, France, Russia, Spain, and even Portugal have, and that she should seize the present pretext to obtain such a base. The *Tokyo Shimpo* thinks nothing can ever wipe away Germany's disgrace, and calls upon the Japanese Government to defend China against the bullying Kaiser, as she defended Korea against China. The *Shogyo Shimpo*, however, forms a notable exception. It says in effect:

The Japanese, in commenting upon the affair, should remember the heavy debt they owe Germany. From Germany Japan has

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borrowed her military organization, her medical system, a great part of her constitution, and her local government. When she conquered China her victory was largely due to German instruction, and when she hears of the fame won by her medical men, her local government getting into satisfactory condition, and her representative institutions working well, this debt is continually recalled. Japan can only congratulate Germany, especially as the seizure of Kiao-Chau furnishes reasons for the permanent occupation of Wei-hai-Wei by the Japanese.

The Hongkong *China Mail* is disgusted that England should permit "a fledgling like Germany to reap benefits she has sown," and is confident that civilization in general and the progress of China in particular must be retarded if the Teuton is allowed to have his way. It adds:

"The question now arises, Is Great Britain to be quietly 'left,' while youthful interlopers come in and take the cream of influence and strategic positions in the far East? . . . Great Britain has for many years treated China too much as a civilized nation, and the Chinese Government as a civilized factor in international politics. Certain persons are of opinion that our leniency and fair dealing have placed us upon a plane much higher than that of any other nation. . . . Let us suppose for a moment that Hongkong has passed from the control of Great Britain into that of Russia, France, or Germany. Would not the Chinese people and the Chinese Government soon discover the difference? This consideration does not appear to have occurred to the high authorities of Peking, nor to the British Minister. But it is one which might be more carefully considered than it has yet been, both in connection with the concession on the Kowloon side, and as bearing upon any similar concession of territory or other privileges from the Chinese Government to China's best friend."

INDUSTRIAL STRIFE IN ENGLAND.

THE engineers' strike has not yet been settled in England. The railroad employees were prevented with difficulty from beginning a general strike just before Christmas. And if the cotton-spinners make good their threat to stop working rather than accept a reduction of five per cent., their struggle may put all previous strikes in the shade. Meanwhile Germany, Belgium, and other Continental nations reap the benefits of British inaction, and American enterprise is laying the foundation for a competition which, tho comparatively small as yet, promises to become the most dangerous rival not only of English but of all European industries.

The St. James's Gazette puts the case in the main as follows:

The unions concede graciously the right of the masters to employ any man, whether he is a member of a union or not; but they decline to permit their members to work with non-union men. They further agree to allow their men to do piecework; but they decline to make allowances for efficiency. Compare the two proposals side by side:

Masters' Terms.	Trade-Union's Terms.
The prices to be paid for piecework shall be fixed by mutual arrangement between *the employer and the workman who is to perform the work*. The Federation will not countenance any piecework conditions which will not allow *an efficient workman* to earn at least the wage at which he is rated.	The prices, etc., shall be fixed by mutual arrangement between the employer and the *workmen* who are to perform the work. The Federation will not countenance, etc., which will not allow *their workmen*, etc.

The masters will not demand more than forty hours overtime, at usual rates, during every four weeks. The union will not grant more than eighteen hours—a difference between a possible one and one-third hours a day and a possible three quarters of an hour—stupendous energy, this, at extra pay! The union insists that every man must be paid alike, if he is employed at all. The employers do not want to cast off their older servants, but keep them on at what their work may be worth. The employers wish to put their machines into the hands of the best men, and pay them accordingly. The union wants the masters to employ men for what they are called rather than for what they are. If we prefer efficiency in work and consideration for fellow workmen, it seems to us our support must go to the employers. The champions of the men are much readier to fight for generalities, like the "right of combination"; but the time has passed for these generalities. British law no longer allows British capitalists to tyrannize over British labor.

As instances of the immense power exercised by the trades-unions in England we quote the following instances among many that are given:

Two shipwrights, Flood and Taylor, did some work as iron-workers. This offended the boiler-makers, and they have been expelled from the shipyards—are not, in fact, permitted to obtain work, because any firm employing them risks a strike of its union men.

A London firm had an apprentice working between two union men, all on similar machine tools. The apprentice was "interviewed" by these two men because he finished three heads (part of a stamp mill) in his day against their two each day. The lad, threatened with a broken head, consulted his father, who reported to the firm. The firm did not dare to proceed against the union men, but left them to do their minimum of work, and put the youngster, who was too honest to cheat them, on some other work.

A heavy sole plate was being lowered through a narrow casing on board a vessel on the Clyde. The job could only be done at high water. It was begun an hour before stopping-time, but some hitch occurred, and it was but three fourths down when the 5:30 whistle blew. A few more minutes would have completed the job, and the fitters were quite willing to finish it; but the orders of the union were imperative, and they left, leaving the vessel in a precarious situation.

It is recognized by most papers in England that such a condition of affairs must necessarily affect the welfare of the empire. *The Weekly Chronicle*, Newcastle, a paper read chiefly by the middle classes in the north of England, reechoes the sentiments of hundreds of its contemporaries in the following:

"Even the stern realities and still sterner future possibilities of foreign competition, however, have been unable to prevent the British workman from adopting a policy that is calculated to drive the trade of the country to foreign lands. . . . The modern trades-union ideal is a dead-level of uniformity, this level being computed and fixed, not by the skill and attainments of the highest workman, but by the deficient acquirements and qualities of the lowest. The clever and the clumsy, the industrious and the idle, are mated by the new unionists, and the smart man must not do more work or earn more wages than the stupid and slipshod, while the amount of industrial output is measured, not by the standard of the superior workman, but by that of the slowest and idlest. . . . 'One man, one machine,' is the cry in England now. But in America one man minds three or four machines. Here it is the boasted policy of the men to produce as little as possible; in America, Belgium, Germany, and France, it is recognized that low production means low wages, and in their laudable desire to improve their own condition the foreign workmen are wresting from us our old industrial and commercial supremacy. . . . Soon the Orientals of India, China, and Japan will enter the field against us; and, as the Chinese and Japanese particularly are the most industrious and patient peoples under the sun, and can live for a year on what would be in the case of an English artisan a 'living wage' for a month, it is probable that before the new century is very old the British workman will find that in the struggle for existence he is neither the best nor the fittest to survive. . . . It is to be feared that the preparations we in England are now making for this contest are not such as to give us the best chance of success."

The British public would view the struggle between employers and employed with greater equanimity if it were certain that the most deficient Briton is still superior to the average or even unusually efficient foreigner. But the faith in this ancient English doctrine appears to be somewhat shaken. The Manchester committee recently sent on a tour through the other countries of

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Europe to investigate industrial progress there, reported, according to the Manchester *Guardian*, to the following effect in the Municipal Council:

The members of the committee, most of whom had never left their native shores before, were inclined to believe that industrial competition with England exists chiefly in the minds of alarmists. Alderman Higginbottom informed his hearers that, incredible as it may seem, forty-nine of the fifty electric stations they visited in France, Italy, Germany, and Austria had been built by people of these countries, yet they were the best he had ever seen. Another alderman declared it was high time for Englishmen to improve their professional and general knowledge. He went so far as to say that an English workman stood, on the average, as far beneath his German comrade as a painted savage beneath civilized man. Another declared that English industrials would willy-nilly be forced to follow their despised German competitors in the practise of educating their sons for real work. At present the young Englishman is satisfied with football honors, while such technical schools as exist in England can not obtain sufficient pupils.

The defenders of the trades-unions offer no new arguments. Competition for first place in efficiency can not well be granted by the unions, they think. *The Westminster Gazette* says:

"It is very easy to say that 'no employer shall be restricted in employing any workman at any rate of wages mutually satisfactory to them both,' or that alterations, restrictions, and extensions of the rules governing employment shall be by 'mutual agreement between the employer and the individual workman.' 'I don't compel him to take what I offer,' says the employer. 'If he does not like my terms he is not bound to take the job. As for the conditions on which I choose to work my machines, they are my business and nobody else's.' . . . Yet how does it look to the individual workman? Why, that the entire principle of selling his labor, for which he has been contending since the beginning of the century, upon which he has relied to render his position tolerable in dealing with the power of capital, and which by painful steps he has caused to be recognized in law—is at one stroke cut from under his feet, while the employer remains with a powerful combination at his back. 'How,' argues the workman, 'can I, as an individual, deal on tolerable terms with my employer, while I stake the whole of the wages which support wife and child on the refusal . . . of his terms, whereas he stakes nothing, or something infinitesimal, by my refusal to work for him?' When he reads the 'absolutely final' terms of the master-engineers it seems to him that he is being sent back sixty years—to the day before trades-unions, when the right of the master to do what he would with his own was tempered chiefly by the power of the workman to wreck his factory or assault his person."

HOW ASIATICS SHOULD BE TREATED.

OF all the nations possessing Asiatic colonies, none have been more successful in establishing order and insuring peace than the Dutch. Wherever the natives have been subjugated under the rule of Holland, remarkably cordial relations exist between the conquerors and the conquered. This is said to be largely due to the efforts of the Dutch press, which ceaselessly preach that natives must be judged by their individual merit rather than by their rank and the ancient customs of their race. The *Handelsblad*, Amsterdam, acknowledges that this is up-hill work, for the European conqueror is much inclined to be arrogant. But the work is progressing sufficiently to warrant the hope that race prejudice will vanish under the Dutch tricolor. We quote as follows:

"Private persons and officials regard the native in a manner very different to-day from their attitude of thirty or forty years ago. Then corporal punishment was ordered for ever so slight a misdemeanor, and the European residents followed the example of the administration. Scolding, swearing, and beating were regarded as the best means to keep the 'lazy niggers' in order. That sort of thing is no longer countenanced, just as the use of the cane in our schools has been abandoned since the teachers have discovered better method to stimulate their pupils. Our officials in India have not *all* learned to treat the natives justly, any more than all our teachers know how to exercise moral suasion. But rude officials are certainly not encouraged, and they are censured strongly by public opinion even in the colonies."

The paper then quotes a case in point from its numerous correspondence on the subject to the following effect:

"The son of a native regent, educated at a Dutch high school, was at home during his vacation. At school he did not in any way stand below his European competitors, and his behavior was excellent. During the vacation his father was visited by a European merchant, who did not fail to inquire after the health of the son. The latter, being called, approached the visitor in Javanese fashion—on his knees. But the Hollander said laughingly: 'Come, come, boy, surely you don't have to act that way to me. We know each other too well!' He insisted upon the young man's taking a seat at his side after the European fashion. A little while after a Dutch high official appeared, shook hands with all present, and entered into conversation. A little later an official of much lower rank appeared, and he, imbued with an enormous sense of his own importance, treated the young Javanese with contempt. He took care, however, to wait until the other two gentlemen had departed. What a funny idea this official must have of 'prestige' and how it is to be gained! Men who thus attempt to raise themselves make themselves ridiculous in the eyes of their superiors as well as the natives, and we fully agree with our Indian correspondents who think 'such behavior is unsuited to the spirit of the times.' Sensible, well-bred officials do not act in this way, and we wish that, for the sake of our prestige, they were all sensible and well-bred."—*Translated for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FOREIGN NOTES.

SOMEWHAT late, the Russian government organs publish the number of persons who lost their lives during the stampede on the Chodynsky Fields, at the time of the coronation of Czar Nicholas II. There were 1,429 victims, according to official count.

THE Paris police have informed their Berlin colleagues of the discovery of an "export business" in German babies. An agent obtains the children in Berlin and sells them to childless Parisian couples. The fellow escaped arrest in Paris, but his description has been furnished to the Berlin authorities, who are on the lookout for him.

PRINCE MOHAMMED ALI, brother of the Khedive of Egypt, is said to be in love with an American. He will be permitted to marry the girl of his choice if the Khedive has a son born to him. Otherwise Prince Ali must choose a partner among the ladies of his own rank for the sake of the succession. The fact that princes who are willing to become commoners are getting so numerous seems to indicate that the king business isn't what it used to be.

THERE is an ancient superstition among the nobles of the Alt-Mark, in Prussia, that if any of them is raised to an earldom, his family dies out in the next generation. Bismarck feared for a long time that this would happen in his case. About two years ago, however, his second son, Wilhelm, became the father of a boy. Since then Graf Herbert, the old Chancellor's eldest son, has also had a son, and so the direct succession of the earldom seems to be assured beyond the second generation.

THE death of the Duchess of Teck leaves the Duke with a very small income, for the $20,000 granted to the Duchess as a princess royal reverts to the state. A grant will probably be asked for, and the English press will probably complain that the British people are made to keep a German "pauper prince." The Duke's epidermis is said to be rather thick in this respect. Henry of Battenberg was much more thin-skinned. It is said that the taunts hurled at him killed him.

THE craze for mementos, so aptly ridiculed by Mark Twain in his "Innocents Abroad," sometimes is attended by disagreeable consequences. An English doctor was recently sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment for cutting off a tassel in the palace of Herrenchiemsee. The *Abend-Zeitung*, Augsburg, remarks on this: "The culprit did not at all make a bad impression; but the people of Prieu can not be blamed for enforcing the law when any one is caught red-handed despoiling the palace. Only recently a golden lily was cut from a valuable piece of tapestry by some person who did not mind ruining the property for the sake of a memento."

THE International Bureau of the Postal Union in Paris has published the income and expenses of the different postal services for 1896. The United States, it appears, still has to pay out more than it receives on this account. The income was about $80,000,000, the expenses $90,000,000. All other countries profit. The German post-office netted $97,000,000, and expended $94,000,000. Great Britain fared still better. Her post-offices took in $57,000,000, and the expenses were only $40,000,000. For France the figures were $45,000,000 and $37,000,000; in Russia $32,000,000 and $23,000,000; in Austria $23,000,000 and $21,000,000. The enormous extent of the United States and the low rate for second-class matter are thought to be responsible for her postal deficit.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

MAKING FORTUNES OUT OF HAND-SHADOWS.

A NEW profession, or "art," has just been developed in England. The hand-shadows so often used to quiet and entertain restless children on a stormy day are now making fortunes for two professional entertainers in London, one at Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, the other at the Crystal Palace. Bernard Miller tells us about them in *The Strand Magazine* (January), and numerous illustrations are given, some of which we reproduce. These illustrations are from the first photographs of shadow-pictures that have been successfully made, as "the entertainment is one that does not favor the camera."

THE G. O. M.

Most of the shadow pictures are in continual motion, a feature which appeals strongly to Piccadilly and Crystal Palace audiences. The operator first displays the simple shadow of a pair of hands and the spectator then sees every movement in the operation of making dogs, birds, prominent people, and funny situations. Some of the scenes are progressive, and it is really no small task for the operator to keep two dogs fighting, or represent a young lady before the glass, or picture an interrupted serenade, without making some false move that will destroy the illusion. Many of the portraits, also, are transformation portraits, one changing into another in sight of the audience, but so slowly that the various motions are distinct and can be followed easily by the keen-eyed. "There is a certain appropriateness," says Mr. Miller, "in the G. O. M. swiftly giving place to Lord Salisbury. Only, in this case, one can see at a glance how it is all done; there is no diplomatic concealment." Mr. Miller describes the paraphernalia as follows:

"The apparatus is not elaborate—merely a powerful arc light of 2,000 candle-power, whose beam passes through a small circular opening on to a sheet of ticket-writer's holland. Occasionally some little property—a pipe, a piece of cardboard, or what-not—is used for adventitious effect; but for the most part the 'artist' uses his hands simply and solely. What is more, the arc lamp can be dispensed with, and almost equally amusing results produced by the aid of a clothes-horse, a sheet, and a candle. If an oil lamp is used, care must be taken to turn it so that the edge of the flame is toward the sheet; otherwise the shadow will be blurred and hazy."

LORD SALISBURY ON THE ALERT.

These shadow-artists actually make their preliminary studies from living models and practise patiently and persistently to bring out the fine points that make the shadow characteristic. On one occasion, M. Trewey was observing a handsome bull. "The bull resented the whole business," says Mr. Miller, "and charged. He charged far more heavily than an ordinary human model would, so that what with damaged clothes and person, and shattered camera, M. Trewey found the bull a costly sitter." Mr. Miller continues:

"These shadowgraphists have pupils. Fathers of large families pay Mr. Devant eight guineas for a course of ten lessons in the art, that they may amuse their wives and offspring during the long winter evenings. Mamma cuts out and hems the sheet, while daddy gesticulates strangely in the endeavor to portray new figures of his own invention. M. Trewey's most interesting pupil was an enterprising dentist, who wanted to learn shadowgraphy in order to beguile timid children while he removed their offending molars. Then clergymen take a few lessons that they may not be outshadowed, as it were, at parochial tea-parties by the efforts of amateur entertainers. Even lunatic asylum officials have been among Mr. Devant's pupils. . . . . .

"Mr. Devant was on one occasion giving his shadowgraphic performance in the famous subterranean saloons at Welbeck Abbey [continues the writer], and the Duchess of Portland was present with her pet dog on her knee. Now, one of the funniest of Mr. Devant's scenes depicts a quarrel between two big dogs, which are portrayed solely by the operator's own two palms. When at length these shadowy animals were depicted at it tooth and nail on the sheet, Her Grace's pet could no longer resist joining in the excitement. 'That little dog,' remarked Mr. Devant, 'howled and barked with all the vigor it could muster. Evidently it was backing one or other of the combatants, or perhaps it wanted to have a hand—or rather a tooth—in the fight. At any rate,' added the popular entertainer, 'I considered the incident one of the sincerest and most unique compliments I ever received."

The young lady dressing for a party is one of the most laughable of the shadow scenes. Mr. Miller says:

"The lady is very much in earnest; evidently it is a toilet with a purpose. The hair is gradually curled, the hairpins placed in position one by one, so as to support an artificial dab of wool, which represents, we believe, a 'bun' unknown to confectioners. All this, with many delicate, inimitable touches; a look in the glass now and then; expressions of alternate disappointment and delight, and final movements of triumph that are simply irresistible. . . . Now and again during this wonderfully funny dumb pantomime the lady's enormous hand is seen busily at work placing the hairpins. Finally the exit of the 'belle' causes roars of laughter, her mincing gait and languishing mien being reproduced with overwhelming comicality."

DRESSING FOR A PARTY.

The "interrupted serenade" is Mr. Devant's masterpiece. Considerable "property" is used in the shape of cardboard; but the injured air on the musician's face when ordered to stop, the defiant way in which he proceeds, and the climax in the "retribution" scene must be credited to clever fingers. As the water (sand really) teems down, amid shouts of laughter from the audience, the musician collapses, sadder and perhaps wiser, while the triumphant householder shuts down the window with a self-satisfied bang. A moment later Mr. Devant's flexible hands loom large upon the illuminated disk, and the performance is at an end.

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BUSINESS SITUATION.

Trade reports continue to emphasize the encouraging features of 1897, particularly the reduced volume of business failures. The new year begins with some disappointment for speculators in stocks and grain. Wage reductions in New England are offset to a degree by the resumption of work in the glass industry and activity in iron manufactures. The last Union Pacific payment was made without embarrassment, and balances in favor of this country seem to be on the increase. Bank clearings for the week reflect annual settlements, but even then the total has been exceeded only four or five times in the history of the country.

Confidence and Activity.—"The year opens with a tone of quiet confidence pervading nearly all branches of business, with encouraging activity in the iron trade, a resumption of work by many thousands of industrial employees in the Western glass industry, a largely reduced volume of business failures as compared with corresponding periods in preceding years, and a general outlook certainly not inferior to any previous year at this time. Distributive trade has naturally been rather slow pending stock-taking and the return of salesmen to the field. While the volume of distributive business is no larger, industrial activity is a special feature unconfined to any one section, but specially notable in the West. Resumption of work after the holidays has been general and encouraging in that section. Autumn weather in the Northwest checks distribution, but collections are reported good. Sales of Southern iron are large. Louisana sugar-crop returns have been very satisfactory. Nine tenths of Florida's orange crop was gathered before the late freeze, and cotton is steady on good export demand. Wool has opened up actively at some Eastern markets, and lower prices for cotton goods have stimulated some demand. Wage reductions at New England cotton mills have been very generally accepted. The jewelry trade has been encouraged by the small number of failures occurring in that line. Preparations for an active Alaskan trade are making on the Pacific coast, and needed rains are reported in California. Prices have shown few important changes and steadiness is a leading feature."—*Bradstreet's, January 8.*

Business Failures.—"In failures 1897 was not only the best year since 1892 but on the whole the best ever definitely known. With 13,522 failures, in number 11 5 per cent. less than 1896, and $182,581,771 defaulted liabilities, 34 per cent. less than in 1896, the year's banking failures counted for $28,249,700, and the commercial failures were but 13,351, with liabilities of $154,332,071, the average per failure being only $11,559, the lowest ever known except in 1892. But even in that year the failures during the last half averaged liabilities of $10,477 per failure, while in the last half of 1897 the average was only $9,593. The returns by branches of business show that in 15 out of 28 classes the failures were lower than in any previous year of which there is a record, with especially large decrease in the great number of unclassified manufacturing and trading failures. Moreover, the year showed remarkable decrease, as some other prosperous years have shown increase, comparing the second with the first half."—*Dun's Review, January 8.*

"Naturally enough there is a slight gain in the number of failures reported this week over last, the total aggregating 333 against 297 last week, but a heavy falling-off from 1897, when the total was 488. The total in this week of 1896 was 446, in 1895 405, and in 1894 484, thus showing a falling-off from this week in recent preceding years of from one quarter to one third. [*Dun's Review:* 322 to 471 last year.]"—*Bradstreet's, January 8.*

Wheat and Corn.—"Wheat declined 1¾ cts., owing to the termination of the corner at Chicago, and Western receipts were about double last year's, with Atlantic exports 2,840,318 bushels, flour included, against 2,150,909 last year. A speculative estimate makes the quantity still in farmer's hands 40 per cent. of the crop, which is quite possible, but the consumption and exports in half the year ought to take more than 40 per cent. of the year's supply. A fleet of vessels is reported at Baltimore or on the way thither for wheat. Exports of corn for the week fell below last year's, altho Western receipts are unusually large, and the price fell about ¾ of a cent."—*Dun's Review, January 8.*

Canadian Trade Improvement.—"Favorable weather is reported from the Dominion of Canada this week, and the outlook for spring trade is regarded as one of the best for years past. American prints are reported selling freely at low prices. A large immigration is expected in the Dominion during the ensuing year. The returns from the Newfoundland fishery are expected to show better than any previous record. There were 48 business failures in the Dominion of Canada this week, against 22 last week and 65 in this week a year ago. Bank clearings of six Canadian cities for the first week in January amount to $27,822,000, a gain of 31 per cent. over last week and nearly 19 per cent. increase over this week a year ago. [*Dun's Review:* 32 to 62 last year.]"—*Bradstreet's, January 8.*

Who Has the Oldest Sewing Machine?

A new "Singer" given in exchange for it.

We will give one hundred latest improved Singer Sewing Machines in even exchange for an equal number of the oldest sewing machines of any make, now in family use. Awards to be decided from applications sent to us before March 1, 1898. The new machines will be delivered within 30 days thereafter.

All you have to do *is to send this information on a postal card:* (1) your name; (2) location of your residence; (3) post-office address; (4) name of your machine; (5) its factory number; (6) length of time in use; (7) paper in which you saw this. *Send details in this* **exact** *order on a* **postal card**—*don't send a letter—and put nothing else on the postal card but the information desired.*

This is no guessing contest requiring a payment, a subscription, or a personal service of any sort. If you own an old sewing machine, you have only to send the requisite information in order to compete for a prize worth having. It costs absolutely nothing but a postal card, which may bring to your door the best sewing machine in the world in exchange for your old one.

THE SINGER MANUFACTURING CO.,
P. O. Box 1814, New York City.

A Lot of 500 Tea Cloths

(Hemstitched Damask.)

36 inches square, $1.00 1.25 1.75 2.00 2.25 2.50 2.75 3.00 4.00 ea.
45 " " $1.50 2.00 2.50 2.75 3.00 3.75 4.50 5.50 ea.
54 " " $2.00 2.50 3.50 4.00 4.75 5.00 7.00 ea.

Annual Sale

Bed Linen, Towels,

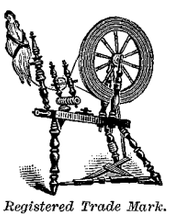

Table Cloths, Napkins

Registered Trade Mark.

"The Linen Store."

A Lot of 375 Doz.

Tray and Carving Cloths

(Hemstitched Damask.)

17x23 inches.....25c. and 50c. each
20x29 inches..50c. 75c. 85c. $1.00 1.50 2.00
24x32 inches.....$1.00 2.00
30x36 inches.....$1.50 2.00 2.25

Send for 24 page Book.et describing all goods offered in this sale.

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I will for a short time mail any reader of the LITERARY DIGEST one of my new Scientific Catarrh Inhalers and medicine for one year, with full directions on three days' trial free. It's the best inhaler ever offered.

If it gives satisfaction, send me $1.00, if not, kindly return it. Address,

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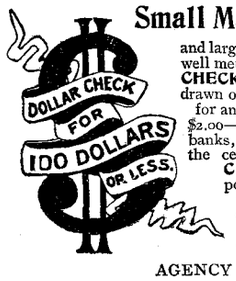
Dr. Worst makes our readers a generous offer and all can avail themselves of it.—EDITOR.

Small Mail Remittances



and larger expenses can be equally well met by use of the **DOLLAR CHECKS** of the Cheque Bank, drawn on the Bank of New York, for any amount from 10 cents to $2.00—available at shops, hotels, banks, etc. They are just like the celebrated **Cheque Bank Cheques** which are in pounds sterling from £1 up—available in every country in the world. Full information given of each to all applicants.

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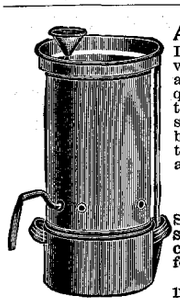

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Is easily obtained—drink pure water aerated with sterilized air. It promotes digestion and quickens the action of the liver, the source of every beautiful skin. To remove pimples, blotches and wrinkles bathe the face freely in distilled aerated water made only by

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Current Events.

Monday, January 3.

An **anti-Hanna combination controls** the organization of both branches of the Ohio legislature; Mason, Republican, defeats Boxwell, regular Republican, for speaker of the House, by a vote of 56 to 53. . . . Secretary Gage decides to call in all **$100 silver certificates** outstanding, amounting to $26,000,000, on account of the discovery of a dangerous **counterfeit**. . . . The corrected **surplus** of the Treasury for December is $1,714,831; the public debt decreased $10,114,899 during the month.

The British Government declares that any **Chinese port** open to one power must be **open to all**. . . . **Li Hung Chang** is recalled to power at Peking. . . . The British **cruiser** *Powerful* arrives at Hongkong. . . . By the **collapse of a floor** and gallery in a **London, Ontario,** hall a number of persons are killed.

Tuesday, January 4.

James M. E. **O'Grady** is nominated for **speaker** of the New York Assembly by Republicans. . . . John D. **Rockefeller gives another $200,000** to the Chicago University. . . . The **American Steel and Wire Company,** of Chicago, is incorporated with a capitalization of $87,000,000.

It is said that **China is seeking a loan of $80,000,000** in London.

Wednesday, January 5.

Congress reassembles. . . . In the Senate replies from the members of the Cabinet regarding the operation of the **civil-service law** cause debate; notice is given by the chairman of the committee on foreign relations that the **Hawaiian annexation** treaty will be taken up until disposed of; Mr. **Teller** introduces a resolution declaring bonds of the United States payable in silver dollars. . . . In the House debate begins upon an appropriation for the maintenance of the **civil-service commission**. . . . The President makes a long list of consular and minor appointments. . . . The **New York and Massachusetts legislatures** assemble; Governor Black's annual message is given out. . . . The refusal of eleven members of the Maryland legislature to enter the Republican caucus prevents organization. . . . More **New England cotton mills** reduce wages, and employees vote to strike, at New Bedford, Mass. . . . The Nebraska supreme court affirms the sentence of twenty years in the penitentiary for **ex-Treasurer Bartley,** convicted of embezzling $735,000.

China cedes Kiao-Chou Bay to Germany for an indefinite period. . . . The public prosecutor at Madrid decides that there are no grounds for the prosecution of **General Weyler**. . . . **Spain revokes an embargo** on exports of tobacco on Cuba, to take effect January 15. . . . **Edward Harford,** one of the British delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention at Nashville, **dies** on the steamer *St. Paul* on his voyage home.

Thursday, January 6.

The Senate passes public building and other minor bills. . . . In the House debate continues on the **civil-service law**; the bill adopted by Republican opponents of the existing system is introduced; a bill embodying the plan of the **Indianapolis monetary commission** for currency reform is introduced. . . . **Governor Wolcott,** of Massachusetts, is sworn in for his second term.

It is reported that the **British** Government will **guarantee a Chinese loan** of $80,000,000, at 3 per cent., the price of issue to be 110, if the opening of new treaty ports to all nations be conceded. . . . Germany is said to have secured a lease of **Kiao-Chou** for ninety-nine years, in return for a nominal rental; Russia is trying to secure similar terms for Port Arthur and other territory. . . . Owing to the plague, a general **exodus from Bombay** is taking place.

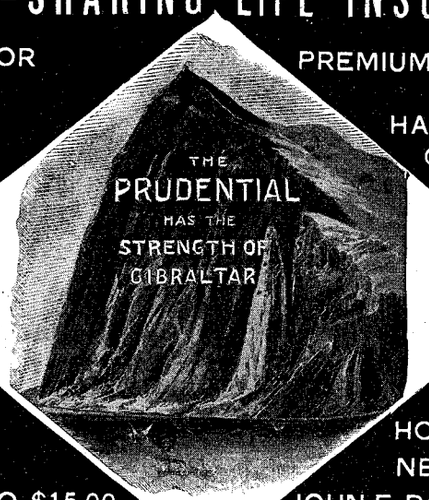
Friday, January 7.

In the Senate **Mr. Allen** introduces a **free-silver coinage** resolution; **Mr. Teller** speaks of the attitude of the Administration. . . . In the House debate continues on the **civil-service** law. . . . Louis Schaefer, of Baltimore, is elected **speaker of the Maryland House** of Delegates by votes of Democrats and Republicans. . . . The **Colorado populist** state executive committee refuses to recognize the call for reorganization in St. Louis. . . . Further **reduction of wages** is reported from **New England mills,**

PROFIT-SHARING LIFE INSURANCE.

POLICIES FOR CHILDREN, WOMEN AND MEN.

PREMIUMS PAYABLE YEARLY, HALF-YEARLY, QUARTERLY OR WEEKLY.



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TO CURE NERVOUS DYSPEPSIA.

To Gain Flesh, to Sleep Well, to Know What Appetite and Good Digestion Mean, Make a Test of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets.

Interesting Experience of an Indianapolis Gentleman.

No trouble is more common or more misunderstood than nervous dyspepsia. People having it think that their nerves are to blame and are surprised that they are not cured by nerve medicine and spring remedies; the real seat of the mischief is lost sight of; the stomach is the organ to be looked after.

Nervous dyspeptics often do not have any pain whatever in the stomach, nor perhaps any of the usual symptoms of stomach weakness. Nervous dyspepsia shows itself not in the stomach so much as in nearly every other organ; in some cases the heart palpitates and is irregular; in others the kidneys are affected; in others the bowels are constipated, with headaches; still others are troubled with loss of flesh and appetite, with accumulation of gas, sour risings, and heartburn.

Mr. A. W. Sharper, of No. 61 Prospect St., Indianapolis, Ind., writes as follows. "A motive of pure gratitude prompts me to write these few lines regarding the new and valuable medicine, Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. I have been a sufferer from nervous dyspepsia for the last four years; have used various patent medicines and other remedies without any favorable result. They sometimes gave temporary relief until the effects of the medicine wore off. I attributed this to my sedentary habits, being a bookkeeper with little physical exercise, but I am glad to state that the tablets have overcome all these obstacles, for I have gained in flesh, sleep better, and am better in every way. The above is written not for notoriety, but is based on actual fact."

Respectfully yours,
A. W. Sharper,
61 Prospect St., Indianapolis, Ind.

It is safe to say that Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets will cure any stomach weakness or disease except cancer of stomach. They cure sour stomach, gas, loss of flesh and appetite, sleeplessness, palpitation, heartburn, constipation and headache.

Send for valuable little book on stomach diseases by addressing Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich.

All druggists sell full-sized packages at 50 cents.

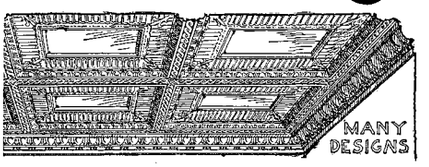
Macbeth's is the only lamp-chimney advertised.

What of that?

It's the only make worth advertising.

Write Macbeth Pittsburgh Pa

Steel Ceilings



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FOR ALL CLASSES OF BUILDINGS

Send for catalogue, and give diagram and description of room for estimate.

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FREE TO BALD HEADS.

We will mail on application, free information how to grow hair upon a bald head, stop falling hair, and remove scalp diseases. Address,

Altenheim Medical Dispensary
Dept. L.Z., Box 779, Cincinnati, O.

A CURIOUS OFFER.

A Sewing Machine Company's Peculiar and Unexplained Proposition.

Much discussion is rife over the fact that The Singer Manufacturing Co., makers of the famous sewing machines, propose to give one hundred of their latest improved machines in even exchange for an equal number of the oldest sewing machines, of any make, now in family use in the United States. The reward is to be determined from the list of applications sent to the Company's head office in New York before March 1, 1898.

This is no guessing contest requiring a payment, a subscription, or a personal service of any sort. If you own an old sewing machine you have only to send the requisite information as to its age in order to be placed on the list and become a competitor for a prize worth having.

With so many as one hundred machines offered, any one with a sewing machine over five or ten years old stands a good chance to gain a new one.

The reputation of the Singer Manufacturing Company for fair dealing is well known; their offices are in every city, and our readers may be well assured that they will do exactly what they promise.

The free particulars regarding sending the information to New York can be obtained from our advertising columns; they may also be procured at any of the Singer Company's offices and from their salesmen generally,

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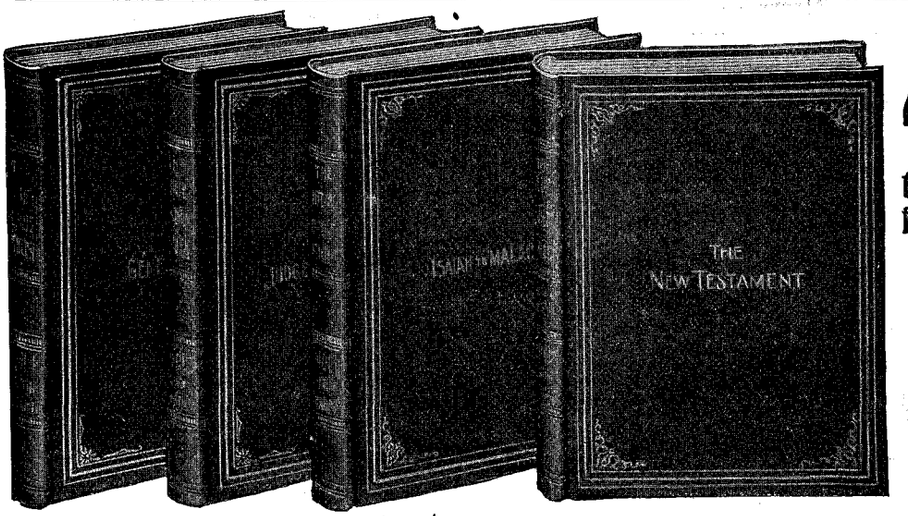

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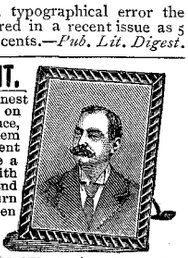
25¢ FOR SAMPLE. AGENTS WANTED.

SPECIAL NOTE: Through a typographical error the price of these indicators appeared in a recent issue as 5 cents. It should have been 25 cents.—*Pub. Lit. Digest.*

YOUR PHOTO—ONE CENT.



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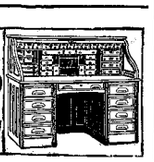

and a strike is imminent at New Bedford, Mass. . . . . The executive committee of the **American Federation of Labor appeals to Congress** for an eight-hour day, against abuse of injunction, against the transportation of prison-made goods from one State to another, and asking for the restriction of immigration. . . . The final payment for the **Union Pacific** road is made to the United States Treasury. . . . W. H. E. **Durrant is hanged** at San Quentin, Cal., for the murder of Blanche Lamont, in a church in San Francisco, in April, 1895.

China is said to have **rejected** proposals for a **Russian guaranteed loan.** . . . The Department of State is informed that Russia and Japan formally recognize the imperial title of the **Emperor of Korea.** . . . **Ernest Hart,** editor of the British *Medical Journal,* dies in London. . . . The Spanish Cabinet decides upon a fresh inquiry concerning **General Weyler's** conduct. . . . **Lady Henry Somerset** tenders her resignation as president of the British Woman's Temperance Association.

Saturday, January 8.

The House, alone in session, continues debate on the **civil-service law.** . . . Secretary Sherman issues another appeal for **aid to suffering Cubans.** . . . **Jackson Day** is celebrated with banquets in a number of cities. . . . Major **Moses P. Handy dies** in Augusta, Ga.

It is denied in Madrid that **General Blanco** has made proposals to the Cuban insurgents. . . . The British capture **Afghan frontier** passes in India. . . . An uprising occurs in **Basutoland,** South Africa.

Sunday, January 9.

The **Rev. Dr. John Hall resigns** as pastor of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, New York.

The first distribution of American supplies for **suffering Cubans** is made at Havana.

Have You Asthma in Any Form?

Medical Science at last reports a positive cure for Asthma in every form in the wonderful Kola Plant, a new botanical discovery found on the Kongo River, West Africa. Its cures are really marvelous. Rev. J. L. Combs, of Martinsburg, W. Va., writes that it cured him of Asthma of fifty years' standing, and Hon. L. G. Clute, of Greeley, Iowa, testifies that for three years he had to sleep propped up in a chair, being unable to lie down night or day from Asthma. The Kola Plant cured him at once. To make the matter sure, these and hundreds of other cures are sworn to before a notary public. To prove to you beyond doubt its wonderful curative power, the Kola Importing Company, No. 1164 Broadway, New York, will send a large case of the Kola Compound free by mail to every reader of THE LITERARY DIGEST who suffers from any form of Asthma. All they ask in return is that when cured yourself you will tell your neighbors about it. Send your name and address on a postal card, and they will send you a large case by mail free. It costs you nothing, and you should surely try it.

STORY-WRITERS, Biographers, Historians, Poets. Do you desire the honest criticism of your book, or its skilled revision and correction? Such work, said George William Curtis, is "done as it should be by The Easy Chair's friend and fellow laborer in letters, Dr. Titus M. Coan." Send for circular L, or forward your book or MS. to the New York Bureau of Revision, 70 Fifth Avenue.

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CHESS.

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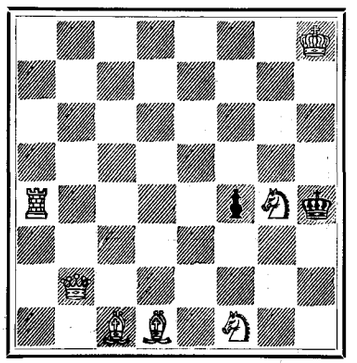
Problem 253.

BY SAM LOYD.

Black—Two Pieces.



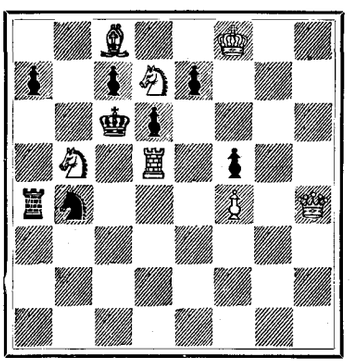
White—Seven Pieces.

White mates in two moves.

Problem 254.

BY RUDOLF WEINHEIMER.

Black—Eight Pieces.



White—Seven Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 247.

1. Kt—B 4 — P Queens or Knights — 2. Kt—Q 5 — Any — 3. Kt—B 3, mate
1. ..... — P Bishops — 2. Kt—R 5 — P x Kt — 3. P—B 3, mate

Correct solution received from M. W. H., University of Virginia; "Spifflicator," and Courtenay Lemon, New York City; C. F. Putney, Independence, Iowa; R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.

Comments: "A charming composition but for the double after P Knights"—M. W. H. "A beauty"—S. "One of the gems of Chess"—C. F. P. "A luminous novelty"—R. J. M. "I thought 247 too simple to notice, but a close study shows it to be a masterpiece"—F. S. F.

The reason that so many of our solvers were vanquished by the little South American is that they did not see that in all their varied solutions P—R 8 becoming a Bishop resulted in a stalemate. One of our solvers who sent us the solution B x P, etc., sagely remarks: "P—R 8 (Bishop), White can not mate in three moves." It is a little problem, and is not, by any means, a perfect work, but it has vanquished more of the boys than almost any other problem we have published.

No. 248.

1. Q—Kt 2 — K—B 4 — 2. Kt—K 4, mate
1. ..... — B—K 5 ch — 2. Kt—Q 5, mate
1. ..... — B any other — 2. Q—K B 2, mate
1. ..... — Kt—B 5 — 2. Kt—K 6, mate
1. ..... — Kt any other — 2. Q—Kt 4, mate
1. ..... — B—Q B 4 — 2. Kt—B 6, mate
1. ..... — B—Q Kt 3 — 2. Q x B, mate
1. ..... — B—Kt sq — 2. Q—Kt 6, mate
1. ..... — P—K 5 — 2. Kt—R 4, mate

Correct solution received from M. W. H., "Spifflicator," Courtenay Lemon, C. F. Putney, R. J. Moore, F. S. Ferguson; the Rev. J. A. Younkins, Natrona, Pa.; F. H. Johnston, Elizabeth City, N. C.; C. Q. De France, Lincoln, Neb.; Walter R. Coumbe, Lakeland, Fla.; J. G. O'Callaghan, Low Moor, Va.; "Ramus," Carbondale, Pa.; Dr. W. S. Frick, Philadelphia; Nelson Hald, Donnebrog, Neb.; the Rev. H. Rembe, Desboro, Ont.; R. N. Bryant, Newcastle, Me.; the Revs. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa., C. T. Ohlinger, Pawtucket, R. I.; E. E. Armstrong, Parry Sound, Can.; W. K. Greely, Boston; K. S. Howard, Webster, N. Y.; the Rev. W. W. Faris, Miami, Fla.; George Patterson, Winnipeg, Man.

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The Rev. C. T. Ohlinger, and Dr. J. P. Rice, San Antonio, Tex., were successful with 245.

The Correspondence Tourney.

THIRTY-FIFTH GAME.

F. M. OSTERHOUT, Factoryville, Pa.	H. N. BULLARD, Parkville, Mo.	F. M. OSTERHOUT.	H. N. BULLARD.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	8 Q x Q ch	Kt x Q
2 B—K 2	P—Q 4	9 B x P	R—Q sq
3 P x P	Q x P	10 P—Q 3	Kt—K B 3
4 B—B 3	P—K 5	11 B—B 4	Q Kt—Kt 5
5 Kt—B 3	Q—K 4	12 B x P	K—Q 5
6 Q—K 2	Kt—Q B 3	13 P—Q R 3	B—K 2
7 Q x P	B—K B 4	14 Kt—B 3	B—Q 3
		15 Kt x R	Resigns

The only thing that can be said about this game is that Black played White's game, and did not seem to have any game of his own.

THIRTY-SIXTH GAME.

Scotch Gambit.

J. H. MOCKETT, JR., "ULTIMO," Lincoln, Neb.		J. H. MOCKETT, JR., "ULTIMO."	
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	8 Kt x Kt	Q x Kt (c)
2 Kt-K B 3	Kt—Q B 3	9 B x B	Q x B
3 P—Q 4	P x P	10 P x P	Kt x P (d)
4 Kt x P	B—B 4	11 B-Q 3(e)	Q-K 2 ch (f)
5 B—K 3	Q—B 3	12 B—K 2	Q—K 5 (g)
6 P—Q B 3	K Kt—K 2	13 Castles	Kt—B 5 (h)
7 Q-Q 2 (a)	P—Q 4 (b)	14 B-Kt 5 ch	Resigns. (i)

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) Here, B—Q B 4, or B—K 2 is usually played. The text-move delays the development.

(b) Castles, or P—Q 3 gives Black a good position.

(c) P x Kt is better. The Q is well posted on the Kt's side. Doubling the Ps is of no disadvantage.

(d) Q x P gives an exactly even game.

(e) A lost move; B—K 2 is indicated.

(f) Useless. Why not B—K 3 or Castles? Black misses his opportunity to more than even up.

(g) B—K 3, followed by Castles on Q side, would have given Black the better game.

(h) This move is not only a blunder, but it is difficult to find any reason for it. If White did not have the crushing blow B—Kt 5 ch, he has B—B 3, and at once Black is in trouble.

(i) Must lose his Q.

THIRTY-SEVENTH GAME.

Vienna Game.

M. P. QUINTANA, Albany.	H. KETCHAM, Vergennes, Vt	P. QUINTANA.	H. KETCHAM.
White.	*Black.*	*White.*	*Black.*
1 P—K 4	P—K 4	21 P—B 4 (l)	B x R
2 Kt-Q B 3	Kt—K B 3	22 B x B	Q R—K sq
3 P—B 4	P—Q 3 (a)	23 B—Q 2	R—K 5
4 Kt—B 3	B—Kt 5	24 B—B 3	Q—Kt 3 (m)
5 P-KR 3(b)	B x Kt	25 P—Q R 3	P—B 5
6 Q x B	Kt—B 3	26 Q—Q 3	R—K 3
7 B—Kt 5 (c)	Q—Q 2	27 Q x Q	R x Q
8 Kt-Q 5(d)	B—K 2	28 R—B 3	R—Kt 6
9 P—Q 3	P—K R 3	29 K—B 2	R x R
10 B—K 3	P—Q R 3	30 K x R	P—Kt 4
11 B x Kt (e)	P x B	31 B—Q 2	R—Kt sq
12 P x P (f)	P x Kt	32 B—Kt 4	R—K sq
13 P x Kt	B x P	33 B—Q 2	K—R 2
14 Castles (g)	B x P	34 B—R 5	R—K 2
15 Q R-Kt sq	B—K 4	35 B—Q 2	K—Kt 3
16 P x P (h)	Castles	36 B—R 5	K—B 4
17 R-Kt 4 (i)	P—K B 4 (j)	37 P-Kt 4 ch	P x P *e.p.*
18 R—K R 4	Q—B 2	38 K x P	R—K 5
19 P—Q 4	B—B 3	39 B x P	R x P
20 R-B 4 (k)	B—Kt 4	40 Game abandoned.	

Notes by One of the Judges.

(a) P—Q 4 is best, as it forces White's center, and retards his development. The text-move has, also, the disadvantage of getting in the way of the K B.

(b) We prefer, in every way, P—Q 3 or P—B 5.

(c) Kt—Q 5 is threatening.

(d) Fine move.

(e) Poorly played. B—R 4 is best. If P—Kt 4, B—Kt 3, with a very good game.

(f) It is quite evident that this wholesale exchange results disastrously for White. Kt x B is in every way stronger, followed by P—B 5.

(g) Why give up the P? There was nothing threatening. P—Q 4, followed by Castles, gives White the better game.

(h) P—Q 4 is clearly indicated, with the preferable game.

(i) White didn't see P—Q 4, B—B 3; B x P, P x B; Q x B. If Black refuses P x B, White has an overwhelming attack.

(j) A very risky move.

(k) A blunder. R—R 5 is the move.

(l) Why give the exchange? R—Q B 4 is good enough.

(m) Well played.

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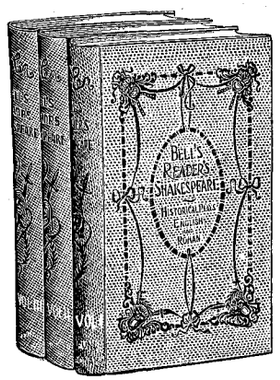

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